IN THE TABLOID: FILM THE FULL MONTY STRIPPED BARE



IN THE TABLOID WRITTEN IN BLOOD – THE WIVES' REVENGE



W GOOD A E OUR

George turns his back on those two-fingered followers



Egomania: Oasis brothers Noel and Liam Gallagher following in the footsteps of George Harrison in Abbey Road

George Harrison thinks Oasis, who have acknowledged the Beatles as a source of inspiraion for much of their music, are

"Listical "rubbish". And the Spice Girls? "The thing about them," he told newspaper, "is that you to look at them with the sound

The ex-Beatle, aged 54, was

giving an interview to Le Figuro to promote a new alhum, Chants of India, by his friend, the virtuoso of the sitar, Ravi Shankar. Harrison produced

Oasis, he replied: "Rubbish! They aren't very interesting. It's OK if you're 14 years old. I

the album.

Asked whether he enjoyed groups such as U2, Texas and

prefer to listeo to Dylan." You know what irritates me about modern music, it's all

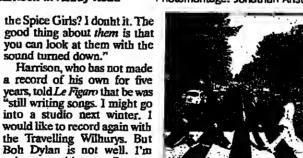
based on ego. Look at a group like U2. Bono and his band are so egocentric ... The pare you jump around, the bigger your hat is, the more people listen to your

music ... The only important thing is to sell, and make money. It's nothing to do with talent." The Beatles, he said, "had a value which will last forever. Today there are groups who self lots of records and then disap-

Harrison, who has not made a record of his own for five years, told Le Figaro that be was "still writing songs. I might go into a studio next winter. I

sound turned down."

would like to record again with the Travelling Wilhurys. But Boh Dylan is not well. I'm going to see him soon." Leading article, page 13



The original Abbey Road Police to investigate MI5 leak

pear immediately. Will we

remember U2 in 30 years? Or

lason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

The heart of MI5 has asked Scotland Yaril to investigate whether one its former agents has breached the Official Secrets Act by revealing details of top-level surveillance operations.

The move follows a meeting esterday between Stephen Lander, the Security Service's director general and Jack Straw,

the Home Secretary.

David Shayler, who spent five years working for MI5, has caused a political furore after claiming that Security Service kept personal files on dozens of ment if found guilty of breaking

Scientists have discovered an in-

triguing connection between

Edinburgh and the tropics

which may explain Robin

Cook's abrupt interest in the

rumbling Soufriere Hills vol-

cano, now threatening to bury

whenever a tropical volcago

blows its top, the city of Edin-

burgh suffers two cold, stormy

winters - as do Mr Cook's cou-

stituents in Livingston, just 13

miles west of the city, where this

October the Commonwealth

According to new research,

Charles Arthur

Science Editor

Montserrat.

Mr Straw, Peter Mandelson, the minister without portfolio, Sir Edward Heath, tha former Tory prime minister and Tam Dalyell, the Labour MP for Linlithgow. Mr Straw and Mr Lander discussed the issues of accountability and surveillance at yesterday's meeting, which was described as

"friendly and frank". Detectives from the Metropolitan Police's Special Branch are to investigate Mr Shayler, who is in hiding in Europe, and will attempt to locate and interview him. Mr Shayler could face up to two years' imprison-

Heads of Government Con-

Even though the two locations are 4,000 miles apart, investiga-

tions by Alistair Dawson, from

Coventry University, and Kieran Hickey, from St Patrick's College,

Ireland, have found that Edin-

burgh's meteorological records

between 1770 and 1988 - the

longest in Europe -show a close

match between bad weather and

its strong winds, but the scien-

tists found that its strongest

storms occurred in the winters

following three of the biggest

volcanic eruptions on record.

The city is already famous for

tropical volcanic activity.

ference will take place.

cision by MI5 to call on the police in an attempt to stop Mr Shayler making any more damaging disclosures was im-mediately challenged by Liberty, the civil rights group, which has pledged to help the former agent fight any attempt to pros-

olcano drums up a storm in Edinburgh

For two winters after the

April 1815 eruptions of Tamb-

ora in Indonesia, and that of

Krakatoa in August 1883, Ed-inburgh endured gales of Force 7 or stronger for 70 days of the

year - twice the usual frequen-

cy. The year after El Chichon

and April 1982, there were

The connection is probably

due to the enormous amounts

of dust that volcanic eruptions

can throw into the stratosphere.

There, the dust circulates over

the Earth's surface and tem-

porarily cools the surface below.

more than 50 days of strong

gales recorded in the city.

Mr Shayler's revelations have raised questions about MI5's accountability, and according to the former agent, skow the or-ganisation's obsession with gathering information on harmless individuals. Under the Official Secrets Act 1989 it is an offence for any member of MI5 "to disany official information about security or intelligence".

Any MI5 tapping of MPs' telephones would have directly hreached assurances given to the Commons by all prime ministers over the last 31 years, writes Anthony Bevins. While Mr Shayler has suggested that Sir Edward and Mr Dalyell had files opened on them, it it not clear whether this included telephone interception.

Although a Committee of Privy Councillors reported to Harold Macmillan, then Tory Prime Minister, in 1957, that MPs were in exactly the same po-

The Mt Pinatubo eruption in the

Philippines in June 1991 lowered

temperatures globally - not just

virons should be particularly chosen to suffer is nuclear.

Professor Dawson said the pre-

The Foreign and Common-

wealth Office (FCO) said it did

not know whether Mr Cook was

already aware of the research.

"Our immediate concern is the

people in Montserrat," said a

spokesman. "And I think Mr

Cook would be sympathetic to

bad weather anywhere."

Why Edinburgh and its en-

on Scotland's east coast

erupted in Mexico, in March: cise mechanisms need to be in-

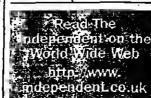
vestigated".

the Official Secrets Act. The deciose without lawful authority sition as any private citizen in regard to the interception of communications, Harold Wilson told the Commons in 1966 that The balance should be tipped the other way" and he had instructed that there was to be no tapping of MPs' telephones. In 1980 Margaret Thatcher confirmed: "as has each of my predecessors since that time, that the policy remains as stat-

ed by [Sir Harold]." As warrants for telephone in tercepts have to be signed by the Home Secretary, tapping of MPs' phones cannot have taken place - unless it has been done, illegally, without warrant,

THE TABLOID EDUCATION+ Concise crossword Edinburgh Festival23 Listings24,25 Radio & TV27,28 Thomas Sutcliffe3





The biggest boom since the Eighties House price rises

Diane Coyle, Chris Godsmark and Ian Burreli

A portrait of a nationwide spending spree emerged yesterday from figures indicating record car sales in the R-registration bonanza, a widespread boom in house prices rippling out from London to the regions and a surge in imports of cars and other consumer goods.

The reports suggested that share windfalls, resulting from huilding societies converting to banks, are fuelling the higgest consumer boom since the late 1980s, despite the recent interest rate rises. Car sales, house price inflation and growth in retail sales have all returned to their highest levels for nearly a

Sales of new cars in this year's R-registration bonanza are likely to hreak the previous record for the key month of August by 20,000, according to industry figures. The daily sales statistics, collected by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, showed a 16.5 per cent jump in total sales of R-registration cars in the first 20 days of August, to 382,000. The figures are better than even the most optimistic forecasts by car companies and dealers, and suggest sales for the whole of the month will reach 520,000, easily beating the previous August peak of 500,112 during the last boom in 1989.

But the August registration figures are also likely to show another rise in the proportion of imported cars. In the first seven months of 1997, imports accounted for two thirds of UK registrations, up from 60 per

THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NAMED IN COLUMN TW

Diana denies criticism

The Foreign Secretary stepped

in to defend Princess Diana

who caused a furore when she

was quoted claiming the Tories'

handling of the landmines issue

was "absolutely hopeless," and

praising Labour. The princess denied the criticism. Page 6

from the remote and rugged Rif

mountains in the north of Mo-

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THE BROADSHEET

Bumper dope crop Moroccan farmers predict a humper marijuana harvest this year. Up to 70 per cent of hashish entering Britain comesage house prices for England

Type Average Price % n 1986 1997 Dr'ehed £106,005 £114,806 8.3 Semi £61,359 £96,563 8.4 Terraced£52,288 £58,225 11.8 Flat £83,468 £70,747 11.4 ource: Land Registry

cent the year before. The turnaround is reflected in the alarming slide in Ford's market share to just 16 per cent, down from almost 22 per cent in 1995. Private buyers are increasingly opting for imported makes ch as Renault, Fiat and

This August was only the second time that registrations have pped the half-a-million mark in the month. Private buyers, who were notoriously cautious last year about committing themselves to "big ticket" purchases like cars, have flocked to spend their windfall bonuses from building society conversions and takeovers. Trevor Finn, chief executive

of Pendragon, the largest UK dealer chain, said: "The windfalls are one factor, but people's minds are generally more set-tled about the economic situation and joh security has stabilised." The picture of a national spending spree was fleshed out by the news that the North East is at the forefront of a widespread rise in provincial house prices that is beginning to show similarities to the hous-

ing boom of nine years ago. Prices in the Hartlepool constituency of Peter Mandelson, the minister without portfolio, are now rising faster than those

in London, according to official Land Registry figures. A Na-tionwide survey of bouse prices out tomorrow will support the finding that other areas of the country are starting to mirror

the London trend. The Land Registry survey showed that in England and Wales as a whole, prices rose by 8.9 per cent from the period of April to June 1996 to the corresponding period this year.

By comparison, the average increase in prices in Greater London was 12.8 per cent, with the average price up from £100,946 to £113,858.

Hartlepool prices went up by 17.9 per cent in the year, more than any other area except Buckinghamshire, where prices increased by 25.3 per cent, and Staffordshire, where there was a 18.9 per cent increase. Alan Lakey, senior manager of Hartlepool estate agents, Manners & Harrison, said: "The more times people talk about Hartlepool the better for the town. It's quite an exciting

lington prices from an average £121,407 to £149,905 (up 23.4 per cent). But the ooce-impoverished London borough of Tower Hamlets was revealed as the newly-fashionable quartier of the capital, with prices rising from an average £81,725 to

£104.842 (up 28.2 per cent). Other figures yesterday showed that Britain's deficit in trade with the rest of the world climbed to nearly £1bn in June - the month the Halifax floated on the Stock Exchange-due mainly to a rapid increase in imports of consumer goods.

Trade figures, page 16

r

Why Does Your

A WORLD-FAMOUS trained industrialists, trades unionists, businessmen, professional men, salesmen, housewives and students to improve their memories, once said:

Many people are ambar-raased by a pour memnry, and find difficulty in concentrating, whilst others realise that they lose business, aca-demic and social opportunities nnt nnly hecause they cannot remember accurately everything they see, hear or read, hut also because they cannot think or express their thnughts clearly, ingically and concisely. Some seek advica, hut many dn nnt, mainly because they believe their mamuriaa cannut be improved.

Simple Technique And yet, he went in the explain, he has deviaed a simpla techniqua which can improva even tha pooreat memory. What's more, it can even work like magic to give you added poise, self-confidence and greater persocal effectiveness. Everyone owes t to himself to find out more about this method.

Rapid Results

According to this remarkable man, anyone — regardless of his present skill could, in just 20 minutes a day, improve his memury and cancentration to a remarkable degree. For example, you need never for-



Forget names, faces?

get another appointment ever! You could learn names. faces, facts, figures and foreign languages faster than you ever thought possible. You may be abla to imprint whole books on your memory after a single reading. You could be more successful in your studies and examinatinns. At parties and dinners you may never again be at a loss for appropriate words or actertaining stories. In fact, ynu canld even ha mare poised and self-confident in everything you say and do.

Free To acquaint all readers of

The Independent with the easy-to-follow rules for develnping skill in remembering, we, the publishera, hava printed full details of this printed full details in this interesting self-training method in a fascinating book, "Adventurea in Memory", sent free un request. No obligation. No salesman will call. Just fill in and return the chopun un (you don't even need to stamp your eovelope), or write tn:- Memnry and Concentration Studies (Dept. IDM 37), FREEPOST 198. Manchester M60 3DL

wago

news

significant shorts

Father thought children were just 'playing dead'

The father of a teenage girl who hanged herself with her 10-year-old friend after a game went tragically wrong said yesterday that when he first saw them, he thought they were playing a game in

which they pretended to be dead.

Stephen Rogers described the moment he went into his 13-yearold daughter Claire's bedroom and found her slumped on the bed
with her playmate Daniel Gibbs, 10, standing against the bunk bed. They had a scarf fied around their necks.

Mr Rogers, of Croxley Green. Herts, said: "They were playing, that is the bottom line. They had been out in the garden playing cricket. They came in for some dinner, had a couple of sandwiches and then went up to the bedroom. We assumed they were playing on the computer and making a camp out of the dining room furniture in the bedroom where they were playing."

He added: "We're devastated. We can't believe it. It is unreal,

absolutely unreal." He denied reports that the children had died re-enacting a hanging scene from a Kevin Costner film.

Jet catastrophe narrowly averted

A catastrophe in the skies was narrowly avoided when two airliners carrying more than 300 people came perilously close to colliding after an air-traffic controller instructed the wrong pilot to descend, a report disclosed yesterday.

Iwo Heathrow-bound Boeing 757s jets were caught in a "stack" of airliners awaiting landing instructions, when one was ordered to descend - into the path of another.

Fortunately, the pilot of the higher of the two planes spotted the danger and climbed to safety as the aircraft came within 400ft of each other. The pilot who took evasive action said there had been "a high risk of collision" and that a collision would have occurred if the weather over Biggin Hill in Kent had not been good.

In a report on the incident, on November 22 last year, the Joint Airprox Working Group - which studies air misses - said it had been a "very serious" incident.

Randeep Ram

Heavyweight prices in Ali sale



Robes and gloves worn by Muhammad Ali at the height of his boxing career went on show to British fans yesterday, ahead of a unique sale of memorabilia. More than 3,000 items linked to the former heavyweight champion are to be auctioned in Los Angeles on 19 October.

The collection, which was built up over more than a decade by an American businessman. Ronnie Paloger, is expected to raise around £1m. It is on show

at Christie's in London until Sunday, before going to the US. The centrepiece is the gown he wore for the "Rumble in the Jungle" against George Foreman in Zaire in 1974, which was immortalised in the recent Oscar-winning film When We Were Kings. It is expected to sell for around £75,000.

Drinks binge killed gay policeman

One of the highest-ranking police officers to "come out" as gay hanged himself after a massive drinks hinge, an inquest heard vesterday. David Baff, 33 - the Metropolitan Police's youngest Detective Chief Inspector - drank a potentially lethal amount of alcohol on 4 May at the three-storey house he shared with his partner, fellow policeman James Baillee, then hanged himself from a first-floor bannister.

The coroner, Dr Stephen Chan, said that to most people it would appear an obvious suicide, but Mr Baff had drunk so much he would not have been capable of making a conscious decision to take his life. He recorded an open verdict on Mr Baff, of Mast House Terrace, Millwall, south-east London.

Pathologist Dr Diane Cox told the inquest he had a blood-alcohol level of 260 milligrams. The maximum for driving is 80 milligrams.

BA clears pilots of safety breach

Two British Airways pilots who were suspended after a five-year-old girl was seen in the cockpit of a London-bound jet have been cleared of any wrongdoing, it was announced yesterday.

Caplain Phil Higton and his co-pilot underwent an internal investigation after allegations that Emily Pickersgill pushed buttons on the flight deck of a Bueing 757.

"The two pilots have been cleared of allegations that they breached company safety regulations," said BA. It was satisfied passengers were not in danger on the August 16 flight from Nice.

Family voyage ends in disaster

A family who sold everything to sail around the world were dramatically rescued by a Royal Navy aircraft carrier as their yacht sank in mountainous seas. The couple, travelling with their sixyear-old son, issued a mayday after they ran into difficulties during

year-old son, issued a mayday after they ran into difficulties during atrocious conditions in the Bay of Biscay on Tuesday night.

The signal from the family, who were travelling from Lowestoft to Gibraltar and were about 200 miles from the French coast at the time, was picked up about 60 miles from the French coast at the time, was picked up about 60 miles away by HMS Illustrious. Chief Petty Officer Boh Saunders, who took part in the rescue, said: "They had sold up everything in the UK and were off round the world. They were going down to the Mediterranean first. Now they have nothing." The names of the rescued family had not yet been released by the New. been released by the Nevy.



OUT OF FASHION: Elizabeth Emanuel, the designer who created Princess Diana's wedding dress, yesterday said that her business was in dire straits due to the compass of the important has happened."
Sothling importer Hamlet. Ms Emanuel, 44, said: "I am totally devastated by what has happened."

Tears as couple lose fight to adopt drug-addict baby

vesterday after she and her husband lost their fight to adopt a 14-month-old girl born addicted to heroin and methadone. The judge praised the couple for the care they gave the child, who also has eczema, asthma, epilepsy and an allergy to dairy products. "I wish to pay tribute to the enormous contribution they have made to the baby's future," said Mr Justice Cazalet. "It is quite apparent that they love her, she loves them and they are well-bonded."

Removing "Baby S" from their home would cause distress, particularly to the couple's own four children, he said. But there were no grounds for overturning the decision of Comwall County Council, which found the couple were not suitable for adoption, despite the fact that the natural mother wanted them to have her child. The council's adoption panel disagreed, partly because the father, also a drug addict, had objected to the family and threatened to disrupt the fostering arrangement.

Last month social workers went to the couple's home,

foster mother was in tears outside the High Court in the St Austell area, to take the baby eway. When they did not hand her over, police were called but refused

> The judge said that the attempt to remove the child was "wholly improper" and against the baby's interests because no proper notice hed been given.

But the council had since rectified the situation by giv-Ing valid notice and it could not be said its decision to remove the baby was irrational, unreasonable or egainst natural justice. The judge, who directed that the parties must remain anonymous to avoid identifying the child, said the foster parents' adoption application would be dismissed unless they lodged notice of appeal egainst his ruling within seven days.

After the hearing, the foster mother was comforted by her husband and one of their daughters. They said that the Judge's decision was wrong. The couple have been registered foster parents for seven years, have cared for 14 children and were said to be highly regarded by the council. Kate Watson-Smyth

MOTORING

Traffic jams are worse than ever, says AA report

Traffic jams have grown steadily worse this year, with drivers in the South-east and Midlands bearing the brunt of the congestion, an AA report said yesterday.

The worst month for gridlock in the first half of the year was June, when the wet weather was a major factor. Nearly half of the accidents which led to the worst of the delays in the six-month period from January to June happened in the morning rush-hour.

Car Free Day on Tuesday 17 June – when drivers were urged to leave their vehicles at home – proved a flop, with 10 per cent more

congestion incidents recorded than normal.

AA Roadwatch logged more than 173,000 jams and hold-ups in the first six months of 1997. The most clogged road was the M42 at junction two in Hereford and Worcester on 10 March, when a multi-vehicle accident led to 28 hours of delays. Randeep Ramesh

NATURAL HISTORY

Dinosaurs may show true colours

Dinosaurs may soon reveal their true colours after the discovery of preserved pigment in the fossils of extinct fish.
Scientists believe similar

pigments might be hidden in dinosaur fossils - allowing them to work out the colour of the giant beasts for the first time. Rather than the commonly assumed grey or drab green, creatures such as Tyrannosaurus Rex could bave been brightly coloured, like present day lizards.

Andrew Parker, e hiophysicist from the Anstralian Museum in

Sydney, is reported by New Scientist to have discovered cells called chromatophores, which contain colour pigments, in fish fossils. If researchers knew where to look, he says, they should be able to work out the colours of other extinct animals.

"We can finally accurately describe the colour of animals from the past rather than simply speculate or extrapolate the colour by comparing it to modern animals," Parker told the magazine. However, an expert from the Netural History Museum said it

was unlikely that dinosaurs were brightly coloured. Dr Angela Milner said: ""It's not impossible dinosaurs had hright colours but it's not likely. If you look at the range of large lizards and crocodiles today most of them are not brightly coloured."

SOCIETY

Dial "R" for rage

"Phone rage" may be about to replace road rage as one of the more fashionable ways of letting off steam. More than six out of 10 respondents in a survey believed that more people are losing their temper on the telephone than did five years ago.

A report by the recruitment agency Reed Employment Services found that just 5 per cent of people believed the phenomenon had declined. Nearly two-thirds of respondents felt they were more likely to express their anger on the telephone rather than face-to-

Nearly three-quarters said they had much higher expectations that their problems would be solved on the spot over the phone and more than half revealed they had themselves lost their temper. An insincere voice or an inattentive response was found to he the most provocative, followed by being kept waiting.

More organisations have laid down a mandatory telephone greeting to avoid irritation, Reed found. The survey is silent however on whether greetings such as "Hello this is Acme Footwear. My name is Mandy how may I help you" provokes even **Barrie Clement**

EMPLOYMENT

Unions' white-collar future

The typical trade unionist is likely to be a middle-aged white collar worker, rather than a "doth-capped, beer-swilling factory worker", according to TUC analysis of official figures.

In its report Trade Unionists Today, the TUC says more than four out of ten union members are managers, professionals and "associate professionals" such as social workers and nurses. Only

around one in 10 are plant and machine operatives.

The great geographical divide however lives on. More than four in 10 people in the North of England and Wales are union members, compared with only two out of 10 in the South-east (excluding London).

The report shows that just under a third of all employees - 6.9 million - are union members. Some 5.8 million work full time with jnst 1.1 million part-timers. Just under half are women.

John Monks, TUC general secretary, said unions needed to

recruit more part-time workers, young people and women, especially in smaller end private firms.

Five alcopops withdrawn from sale

Five alcopop drinks are being withdrawn by manufacturers after breaking the industry's code of conduct, a report by the Portman Group announces today.

The industry watchdog's report also reveals that eight other companies are revising labels, packaging and marketing literature on drinks which similarly breached the code.

Those products being taken off shelves include Barking Frog. Space Doubt, WKD Red and Vixen. Sainsbury's own-hrand alcoholic lemonade, criticised for featuring a cartoon-style lemon on the lahel, is already being discontinued. Meanwhile Speciality Brands, the makers of the alcoholic milk drink Moo, which caused uproar when it was launched, have agreed to give it a new name to make it less appending to under-18s. make it less appealing to under-18s.

Code Report 4. The Portman Group, 2d Wimpole Street, London: WIM 7.4.4.

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OVERSEAS SUBSCRIPTIONS

Historic Newspapers, telephone 01988 B40370.

Her 16 years of typing for the force may not seem the ideal preparation - but she is a former national judo champion and black belt and is keen on many other sports from hockey and volleyball to golf, tennis and squash.

Typist holds

key to keeping

the peace
A former typist has a tough new

role - coaching police officers to

Judy Cousins, 35, was picked

from 40 other applicants - mostly

men - to become Britain's first fe-

male civilian public order trainer.

She will work with Northumbrie

deal with trouble.

Judy, who lives at Hexham and worked at the town's police station, was seconded to headquarters for six months.

"I did feel under some pressure to prove myself at first because I was e woman moving into what



world until my appointment in public order training," she said. by all the male officers from the

ly as strong as men, but we can bring other qualities to the job -

had been very much a man's

not least that a woman tends to be

"But I was completely accepted

very outset.
"I know woman are not general-

less aggressive by nature."

From 'This Life' to that betrayal Tortured souls are becoming Ramon Tikaram's speciality. After playing Ferdy, the sexually confused Mexican despatch rider in the cult television series This Life, the 31-year-old actor has been cast as Judas Iscariot in the revival of Jesus Christ Superstar.

Tikaram takes over the part on 15 September, making his West End debut at the Lyceum Theatre in London. He will star alongside Glenn Carter as Jesus of Nazareth and Joanna Ampil as Mary Magdalene in the Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber musical.

Tikaram's latest part will be a change from his role as long-haired, leather-clad Ferdy, whom This Life fans saw enjoying a number of steamy encounters with members of both sexes.

In the recently released film Kama Sutra he plays an erotic temple sculptor.

Landon, Richmond Park between

London, A 716 Hammer mith Bridge

Survey, M25 J8-III. Lanc closures

for roadwords until Oct 31.

Closed until January 1948,



6.18 6.13 6.13

It will be a showery day across the entire country. In Northern Ireland and western Scotland there will be brief glimpses of the sun with frequent, blustery showers. Some of the showers will be locally thundery and prolonged at times. Wales, central and western parts of England will have sunny spells but showers will be fairly regular. In eastern parts of Scotland and southern and eastern England the showers will be more isolated and some parts may escape dry, with the best of

The showers will mainly die out during Friday with all parts seeing some decent sunsome before the day is over, although rain may reach the extreme south-west later in the day On Saturday it will be cloudy with rain in places along English Channel coasts and the odd shower in western Scotland, but elsewhere it will become dry with long sunny spells. Turning unsettled on Sunday with rain in much of England and Wales but Scotland and Northern Ireland will be mainly dry with

6.08 6.16 6.11 6.11 6.05 6.13

20.19 to

London S England Wales C England N England

Outlook for Today AM HT PM HT London S England Wales C England N England Scotland Good 10.48 6.1 23.33 6.2 8.36 7.6 21.12 7.9 3.59 10.1 16,36 10,4 Half (Albert Dock) 3.25 7.3 16.07 7.3

Cold Staffordshire, ASD Stoke On Trent. Majorworks at Mair until March 1488. Leicestershire, Mt J24 and Sewley Island. Work for the new Derby Sauthern Вурова. Greater Manchester, ASS Park Rd. Clered southbound between the An and Crickware May . May see a real of a and Botton Kield until Oct 24. WORLD WEATHER YESTERDAY, MIDDAY (GMT), c, cloudy, Lian, ig/log, recharge m, mist; Lrans; sn, snow; s, sunny; th, thunder "previous day's rigure at local large." Merseyide, A547 Borde, Stanley Rd describe and until further notes: Type & West, A19 Newcask area c 25 77 s 26 79 26 79 c 22 77 f 13 55 s 37 99 f 28 79 f 29 84 s 29 84 m 2 27 70 m 2 27 70 c Readworks a Killingworth. West Yorks, M1347, Major long-term Undworld until Serv 15. North Yorks, A 19 Th analysis - Res Resultworks. Cay of Ghasp w. M8 J25, Clyde Tun-net A739 Cardwrald Interchange has nament Lance forth ways due to readworks until Aug 31.

9.56 29 22.05 3.0

9.08 3.6 21.39 3.8

Must Saturday night be a TV desert?

The reprieve of Cilla Black this week underlines the failure of the big channels to grab the young and upwardly-mobile

By Paul McCann Media Correspondent

re worse than

OW true colours

. . . - 247 Section of the Control of

1272

Speculation this week that Surprise Surprise. Cilla Black's family reunion show, would be cancelled by incoming ITV director of programmes David Liddiment brought the focus in broadcasting onto what to do

with Saturday night TV. Such is the sensitivity ITV has about upsetting Cilla, who is paid £3.5m over two years, that TTV immediately issued a denial of the story.

But the well-placed ITV source for the story was not the only reason for it running. Once Surprise Surprise took 12m viewers - it has slumped to five or six million this year.

Fifteen years ago even middling Saturday night variety quiz shows like Ted Rogers 3-2-1 could easily bring in 15m viewers. It was the night of the week with the biggest number of available viewers and broadcasters used lowest common denominator fare with its roots in the variety theatre to target the population as a whole.

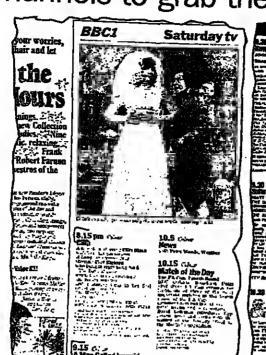
Today these shows are virtually the same, Jim Davidson may have taken over from Larry Grayson and Bruce Forsyth, but the Generation Game lives, In 1982 Noel Edmonds hosted the Late Late Breakfast Show, now he has a House Party.

Relative to other formats these programmes still bring in viewers and they are cheap to make. But now only Blind Date and Noel regularly top 10m.

"The broadcasters are in a Catch 22 situation," says Alan James, TV huying director at advertising agency Ogilvy & Mather. "They bring sizeable numbers, but this means they are terrified of trying anything new. They are trapped with these kinds of programmes and the andience for them is getting older and starting to die

Paul Jackson, the BBC's head of entertainment admitted earlier this year that some Saturday night formats have fallen out fashion: "Variety is going through a cyclical period of unpopularity. It has tended not to deliver recently."

heavily on variety acts for the



Don't be afraid of cancer.

TV times: Saturday with Cilla on the BBC in 1973, above, while ITV featured Reg Varney. Programming Nineties style with the Airport team below



using dramas like Casualty and Crime Traveller to get out of the

Two years ago Man O Man and The Shane Ritchie Experi-The BBC, although relying ence were touted as the new, more risqué face of ITV Sat-

lasted only a season after poor

For ITV, delivering big ratings to its advertisers is its raison d'être, hut it also needs them to be upmarket and young, According to figures from CIA

average 5.9m audience is two thirds downmarket C2DE viewers and 3.5m of them are over 55 years old.

When the likes of Unilever and Procter & Gamble's soap powders and foods dominated fery Live, has been urday nights. Both programmes MediaLab, Surprise Surprise's television advertising these demographics were fine. But now the growth in advertising is coming from the cars, mobile phones and leisure products that are targeted at the young and upmarket.

Some at the BBC are looking for Saturday salvation by producing more of what TV jargon calls popular factual shows.

These can be the people observation programmes - known as POBs - like The Driving School or Airport that work well for the BBC on weekdays, or the more dramatic Emergency 999 and police reconstruction programmes that both broadcast-

These have the advantage of being cheaper to make than the guaranteed ratings winners like police and costume dramas, but may not be strong enough to bring in younger, upmarket

The fact is that those who watch any TV on Saturday evenings are increasingly getting older and more downmarket: *Those who can afford to have got better things to do with their Saturday nights," says Anthony Jones of CIA MediaLab. "Eating out and going to the cinema have rocketed up since the end of the recession, it might not just he that TV is running out of steam. The audience is running out on TV."

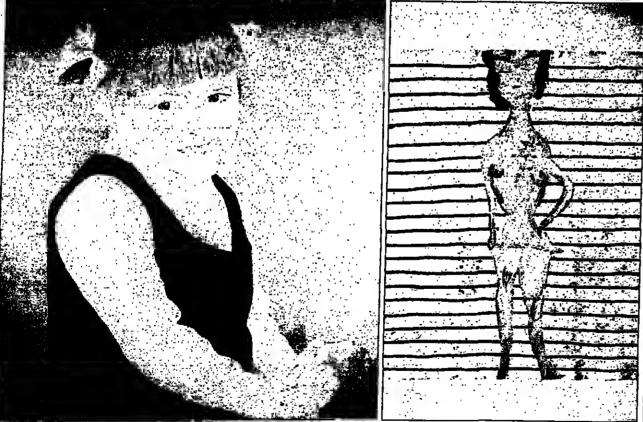
But some in the media question if it is possible to rescue the big Saturday night in front of the TV: "It is a changing social environment," says Ian Lewis head of broadcasting at Zenith Media, the country's largest airtime buyer. "There is no going back to a time when one type of entertainment was enjoyed by great swathes of the

Cracker, the overweight, chain smoking, criminal psychologist is to return to British TV screens as a thin American who plays with cigarettes with-out lighting them. In a twist worthy of the pro-

gramme, Granada sold it to American television producers this year and its subsidiary, Granada Entertainment USA. has now sold the US version hack to ITV to be shown here. The name Cracker is thought to have been dropped by the



The prize for artists who prefer painting to pickling



Compenporary classics: James Rielly's 'Secrecy' (left) and 'Orange' by Rose Wylie, two of the finalists for the £30,000 1997 Jerwood Prize, Britain's biggest art award, which is judged tomorrow

Bruam's higgest art prize will be indeed tomorrow. But you are thinkely to have heard of it even less to see much written

The Jerwood Prize comprises \$1530,000 award for painting, making it, against the Turner's \$20,000, the most lucrative in British contemporary art. Yet he Rumer Prize, with its pickled sheep and cnfant terrible the headlines.

The Turner, although it includes paintings, tends to favour the more fashionable and controversial conceptual and in-stallation art. The artists on last year's shortlist, for example, had lerwood Foundation, a private etween them staged exhibitions featuring human bones, a sleeping actress, a video of naked men in the bath, and photographs of at the time: "The Jerwood objects being thrown over the chilis at Dover. There was not a fully, be emblazoned as Young

is to provide a counterpoint, and highlight the quality of painting in Britain. Patricia Morison, development director of the Jerwood Foundation, which sponsors the prize, said yesterday that the Jerwood hoped to raise the profile of painting - a

'quieter", but just as vibrant art. Painting, she said, often did not get the space it deserved in galleries, or the acclaim from the wider public. "It's a bit like saying poetry is overlooked if you compared it to the novel. The novel surely gets a higher

trust which supports arts, education, design and medicinal initiatives. Organisers said of it shortlisted artists cannot, thank-

Organisers say one of the objectives of the Jerwood Prize now as pickled sheep and concrete houses."

A distinguishing feature of the Jerwood, according to organisers, is that its judges are "strongly weighted" towards the academic, and are different every year. "There's plenty of space for people to make judgements unaffected by what is current fashion," Dr Morison

Unlike the Turner, the most controversy it has attracted came in 1995 when judges were unable to agree on a winner. and instead chose to split the prize between two of Britain's best known painters, Maggie Hambling and Patrick Caulfield.

Perhaps inevitably, in a contemporary art scene still dominated by the conceptual, the prize was initially criticised for being too "safe" and 'mid-dlebrow". This year, however, the shortlist is unlikely to attract such descriptions; it even includes a former Turner shortlisted artist - Gary Hume. Other artists on the shortlist

are: Jane Harris; Louise Hopkins, Maria Lalic; Jason Mortin; Joanna Price; James Rielly; Madeleine Strindberg and Rose Wylie. They may be names unknown to the general public. but, as Dr Morison points out, even the most popular pursuits are unlikely to be followed by everyone. "Millions of people know the names of footballers. whereas the other half don't have a clue," she said,

The list has been narrowed down from nearly 1,000 submitted paintings. judging is due to take place today, although the winner will not be announced until 29 September.

An exhibition of work from the nine candidates will be held at the Lethaby Galleries, Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design in London from

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head shops". less than cocaine itself.

their promise. The MCA will now give the suppliers one last a maximum two year jail

People who take the drugs will not be breaking the law and would not be prosecuted for possession. Substances containing the potentially dangernus ingredients can now only be sold by licence-holders.

Brussels to crack down on corruption · Anthony Bevins Political Editor

that it "shares ... concern felt here and abroad about the ex-A continent-wide crackdown tent and depth of corruption at on corruption is being urged by the European Commission.

many levels. European ministers have agreed to take criminal action against bribery involving na-tional and European officials to the detriment of EU financial interests. A Corruption Convention was accepted by minis-

emment. Home Office minister ters in May, extending that considered by the Council of payer. Thus all bribes which are recommend protection for emJoyce Quin told MPs recently agreement to cover circumEurope. Laundering of the procontrary to the Prevention of players of corrupt firms who stances where EU financial interests were not affected.

The Commission now sugests member-states should introduce a new criminal offence of corrupting a foreign officials, thus covering EU citizens who bribe officials of non-memberstates. It also favours the criminalisation of private-sector corwhich is being

ceeds of corruption, already an offence in Britain, is also urged by the Commission, and the Home Office welcomed a proposal that other EU mem-

commission of an offence by the

r-countries should ban tax deductibility for corrupt payments.

Ms Quin said: "UK tax law already denies relief for any payment which constitutes the

Corruption Acts would not be entitled to tax relief. In addition, tax relief is denied to any gift, hospitality or business entertainment, whether or not cor-ruptly provided." But that is not the case throughout the EU and Ms Quin said EU-wide action would create a more level "play-

a discussion paper was issued in alert anthorities to their company's activities. Ms Quin said: The Royal Commission on The Government agrees that

Standards of Conduct in Pubemployees should not be delic Life, chaired by Lord Salmon, pointed out in 1976 terred from disclosing matters of concern because of fear of that the bribery of an MP was not covered either by statute or victimisation .. Jack Straw, Home Secretary. common law, and it recom-mended "that Parliament has followed up a proposal of his Conservative predecessor. should consider bringing cor-Michael Howard, for a "clari-

fication" of the law relating to ruption, bribery and attempted the bribery of MPs - on which bribery of a Member of Parliament, acting in his parliamentary capacity, within the ambit of the criminal law." Mr Howard said in December: The issue does not seem to bave been followed up by Parliament in the intervening years." Referring to that loop-hole, Ms Quin said: "A possible extension of the legislation is currently under consideration.

Herbal drug sellers could face jail

with member-states being asked

to stiffen criminal sanctions

against those giving and taking

bribes. The proposals, which in-

clude preparation of a list of cor-

rupt people and businesses, were welcomed by the Gov-

Crime Correspondent

Suppliers of herbal drugs - sold as an alternative to substances such as eestasy and cannabis could face two years in jail as part of a government clampdown announced yesterday.

The pills and powders, which contain natural ingredients and until now have been legal, are becoming increasingly popular at nightclubs and raves. Alan Milburn, the Health

Minister, said yesterday that despite claims that the drugs, known as "herbal highs", are harmless, they can have dangerous side effects and, in some circumstances, prove potentially lethal.

The Department of Health is particularly concerned by evidence that 15 deaths in the United States have been associated with products containing ephedra, one of the main active ingredients in herbal highs. There has not, however, been any detailed research into the effects of the bulk of the products or their

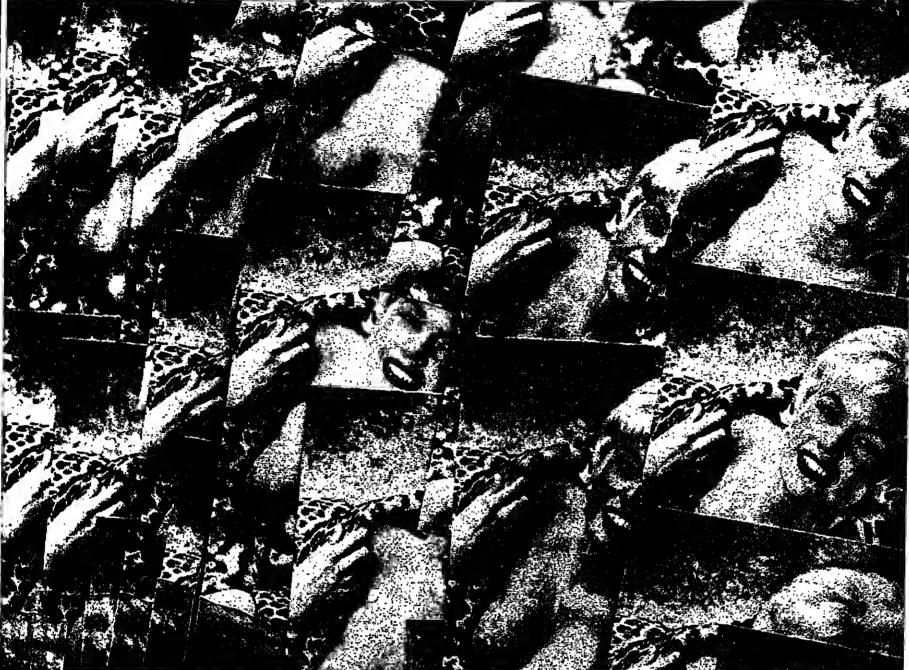
Marketed under names such as "druid's fantasy", "skull cap", "purples", "herbal eestasy" and "road runner", the drugs are often sold in clubs, festivals, through mail order and from specialist retailers known as

One of the most popular herbal drugs is methcathinone. name "cat", which producers claim has a similar effect to cocaine. Some herbal drugs are equivalent in price to their ilicgal counterparts - "cat" costs £55 a gram, just £5 or £10

Agency, who control the sale of drugs, have identified a number of potentially hazardous ingredients. These include ephedra. which was linked to the reported deaths in America, khat, which can cause a form of psychosis and vohimbe, which is potentially hazardous when taken with other drugs which can he found in cough and cold reme-

A year ago the Agency contacted companies who were selling the herbal drugs who agreed to stop the trade. However, they failed to keep chance before they take them to court, where they could face sentence and an unlimited

How to get from Jayne Mansfield to Yvonne Murray in 3,000 takes



a white powder with the street | Altered images: David Mach's portrayal of athlete Yvonne Murray, right, created from photographs of Jayne Mansfield, above

Photograph:Andrew Buurman active part of it."

All is never what it seems in art and this picture of the Scottish athlete Yvonne Murray

is no exception.

The artist David Mach took hundreds of postcards showing the Hollywood starlet Jayne Mansfield and distorted them until he had created the athletic and sinewy form of

The portrait will feature at an exhibition paying tribute to Scottish sporting heroes which opens today at the Scottish National

Portrait Gallery.

Manchester United manager, Alex Ferguson, also features in the exhibition made out of 3,000 chopped up images of Pussy Galore and Stephen Hendry appears created from shots of the earth seen from space.

Mr Mach blew up and then distorted pho-tographs of his original subjects before matching them with sets of chopped up post-

'They're ridiculously labour-intensive because you have to slice up so many bits to fit on the photograph," he said.

"I get my assistants to do that then come along and manipulate the cards. I can explode a face or make it really skinny - that's the cre-

Hong Kong death could UK tops European league the Medicines Control gency, who control the sale of rugs, have identified a number of potentially hazardous ingre-

Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

The death in Hong Kong of a three-year-old boy who was infected by a flu virus never seen before in humans has triggered worldwide alert that a new global flu pandemic may be imminent.

The World Health Organisation dispatched a team of scientists to Hong Kong last week to assist local experts who have been searching for the source of the infection. The scientists will try to establish whether other people in southern China bave been infected with the strain.

The boy, who has not been identified, died of a virus pre-viously seen only in hirds. Medical experts say that because it is a new virus to which humans have no immunity, it could spread rapidly, infecting millions around the world.

mild illness, every couple of decades the virus undergoes a mutation producing a strain to which no one has immunity, turning it into a deadly disease. Three previous flu pandemics have occurred this century, killing millions of people, and all involved viruses that originated in birds. The 1918 pandemic, in which 20 million died, was followed by outbreaks in

1957 and 1968, Virologists say

the next one is overdue. The seriousness of the threat is underlined by the decision of the Government to issue new guidance to health authorities and trusts last March instructing them how to prepare for the next pandemic. The 71-page document, Multiphase Contingency Plan for Pandemic Influenza, says the aim is to reduce death and disease and enable the Notional Health Service "to cope

and dying". It says all non-urgent admissions to hospitals may have to be cancelled and hospital plans "must include mortuary arrangements in the event of a large number of deaths". The document, which re-

ceived no publicity because it was issued two weeks before the general election, says three conditions suggest a pandemic is imminent: the emergence of a new strain of virus (in the Hong Kong boy); a high proportion of susceptible people in the population with no immunity; and evidence that the new strain can spread and cause dis-ease. The first two conditions are met by the Kong Kong case, but experts are waiting to see if further cases of infection with the same virus emerge, proving that it can spread

Dr Alan Hay, director of the

fluenza monitoring centre at the National Institute of Medical Research in north London, said the boy died on 20 May, and virologists identified the virus that infected him the following day as H5N1. "That is quite unique. Our concern was whether it was a one-off or representative of something more

sinister. We were worried." The virus that infected the boy was responsible for an out-break of flu in chickens in Hong Kong during March and April However, there is no evidence that either the child or his parents had contact with chickens. Dr Hay said that as the weeks passed and no new cases apparently emerged, it looked less likely that this was the start of the next pandemic. The WHO said there was "no indication at present that this strain has spread from person to person". I

for asthma sufferers

The UK has more asthma sufferers than any other country in Europe and is among the worst affected in the world, according to a new report.

At least one in seven children aged under 16, and one in 25 adults have been diagnosed with the condition, totalling 3.4 million people. Only Australia and New Zealand have a higher proportion of diagnosed

Asthma has been rising rapidly, according to the report by the National Asthma Campaign. The number of adults consulting a doctor for the condition more than trebled in the 20 years to 1991 and is continuing to grow. GPs recorded almost five times as many new episodes of asthma in under-five s in 1993 compared with 1979 and a four-fold increase in five tn 14-year-olds.

The cause of asthma re-

Data on attacks

mains a mystery and experts are unsure whether the rise is a genuine increase or the result of better diagnosis and increasing awareness. The differences between countries may reflect differences in medical practice and public awareness rather than differences in the prevalence of the disease.

A spokesman for the Na-

The international comparisons are hased on a standardised questionnaire given to people in up to four cities in each country. It is difficult to draw conclusions from the data but you can't deny the facts." Possible causes for the rise in

asthma include changes in the living environment, such as the introduction of central heating and fitted carpets which barbour house dust mites, and effects on the immune system caused by maternal smoking, vaccinations and the use of antibiotics. Known triggers of asthma at-tacks include pollution, smoking, dust, stress and exercise but none of these is thought to cause the underlying condition.

The spokesman added: There is a lot we don't know about asthma hut we do know how to manage it and we are getting good at it. People who are diagnosed can be shown how to take control of it so they tional Asthma Campaign said: avoid having asthma attacks."

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Camera obscura: Paul Thompson puts an exhibit into storage at the National Museum of Photography, Film and Television in Bradford, which is closing down on 1 September for a £13m refurbishment. The museum will reopen to visitors early in 1999 Photograph: Andrew Buurman

One in six supermarket bills have the price wrong

They are a bane of urban life - the people holding up queues at supermarket counters endlessly querying the price of baked beans or family size bottles of Ribena.

But oext time you are gnashing your teeth stuck in such a queuc, pause a while. These "shopping noraks" may be far more astute than they appear. A survey has shown supermarket chains regularly overcharge shoppers for groceries.

No less than one in six till receipts

at different stores were found to be wrong by volunteer shoppers carrying out research for The Grocer magazine. They had bought the same 33 prod-ucts in stores all over Britain over a 12-week period. The mistakes included being charged twice for the same item and sometimes being billed for goods not even in the shopping basket. Hunting out discounted bar-gains was at times a waste of effort as the discounts did not register oo the till, and were sometimes replaced by more expensive prices.

In the North-east, one shopper found he had been charged twice for a £1.25 bottle of Diet Coke at Sainsbury, while at Pootypridd, Wales, aoshopper actually won in the checkout lottery, one customer discovered he had not been charged for a bottle of wine.

The errors occurred at Sainsbury. Tesco, Safeway and Morrisons, despite the fact the industry had invested millions of pounds on new technology at checkouts including barcode scanning. The supermarkets said most of the overcharging could be put down to hu-

Consumers could be said to be, in part, authors of their own misfortune. Few check their till rolls carefully after taking the shopping home, and eveo if they discover minor discrepancies they do not bother to complain.

A spokeswoman for The Gracer, said: "We found human error was to blame in most cases. The speed at which some checkout staff pass items over scanners is bound to lead to mis-takes. Very few people would ootice these mistakes. We are talking about pennies. But we have spouled it as an ssue and our shoopers have spotted these mistakes oo their till rolls - it is a concern."

A Consumers' Association spokeswoman said: "The only way to be absolutely sure you are oot paying over the odds is to go to the supermarket equipped with a calculator. notebook and pen, taking down what other was charged for something she had not bought. Occasionally the cverything should cost and keeping a running total which can be comeverything should cost and keeping pared with the total charged at the

Diet pills bad for the heart, say doctors

Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

Diet pills takeo by millions of people have caused heart disorders in young women and should be banned for all patients, except those who are seriously obese, doctors say today. Oce 29-year-old woman, who had takeo a combination of two appetite suppressants for just 23 days, died of pulmonary hy-periensioo – increased resistance to the flow of blood through the lungs.

The American woman, who was 5ft 5in tall and weighed 13and-a-half-stooe, died eight months after stopping the drugs - feofluramine and pheotermine. A post-mortem exami-nation indicated that lesions on her pulmonary arteries had developed as a result of hrief ex-

posure to the drugs.

Her case is described in today's New England Journal of Medicine which also carries a report on 24 women who developed a disease of the heart valves after an average 12 months oo the same drugs. tional craze in the US, and their these risks.

third of the women had also de-

The Journal considered the findings of that study, cooducted by a team from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, to be so serious that they allowed them to be released in advance of publication. A warning based on the findings, issued by the US Food and Drug Administratioo last mooth, led to reports of a further 28 cases from across the US, some associated with other appetite

An editorial in the Journal says that the cases are "chilling reminders that succumbing to the allure of diet pills as a quick fix for excess weight may be courting disaster." It says they carry a disturbing echo of previous outhreaks of pulmonary hypertension in Europe in the late 1960s and early 1990s, which were also linked

with appetite suppressants. Diet pills have become a na-

One of the 24 had taken the use is growing in Britain. More drugs for only one month. A than 18 million prescriptions for fenfluramine combined with veloped pulmooary hypertenphentermine were issued in the US in 1996. The Journal says the use of diet pills for cosmetic reasons should be hanned until

their risks are better known. "The only justifiable medical use of anorectic [appetite reducing drugs is in seriously obese patients who have obesity related illnesses such as heart disease, diabeles and hypertensioo. For geoerally healthy people who want to lose a few pounds there are safer alter-

A report on obesity by the UK Royal College of Physicians, published in May, concluded that the use of appetite sup-pressants in the very fat was justified where other methods of weight loss such as diet and exercise had failed.

It said obesity was a serious medical condition with an increased risk of joiot disorders, heart disease and diabetes and even a 10 per ceot loss of weight could significantly reduce

"There was much confusion

over such words as 'steel' and 'steal', 'wring' and 'ring', 'alms' and 'arms', 'Wales' and 'Whales', 'rays' and 'raise' ... 'lt's'

(the pronoun) was almost uni-

versally so spelt, though oot greatly to the surprise of those

protested that "the principles of Grammar as exhibited in the

English Language are not made a matter of systematic study in

The examining board's di-rector responsible for liaising

with industry, George Turn-bull, said: "Almost 140 years

later we hear the same comment. from those who should know

better. It's time they stopped

making a drama where there is

no crisis - other than the one

that has always been with us.

our schools."

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who constantly receive letters subscribed 'Your's sincerely'." And if schools are hlamed today for not teaching grammar. the critics are following in a long traditioo. In 1858, examiners

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There's a Great Deal going on

Exam board points to howlers of past was in Scotland. One thought that Killarney was in Greece.

On average, the group had six

In the same year, British Midland Airways complained to

the board that the most

good O-levels each.

if educational standards are talling, they have been falling for a very long time, an exam board suggested yesterday. Tired of the annual round of

complaiots that GCSE and Alevel exams are not what they were, the Associated Examining Board produced evidence that the cry of "standards are falling" goes back for nearly 140 The GCSE, say the critics, is

a doddle compared with its predecessor, the O-level. Yet, the hoard points out, in 1985, during the golden days of Olevel four out of a group of 20 well-qualified traioce travel agents thought that Manchester source of much trouble in our

common error among its trainee reservation staff was that Bangkok was in Hong Kong and Brussels in Amsterdam. Complaints by examiners and employers that young people cannot spell, punctuate or write

atically are scarcely new. In 1931, the Junior County Scholarship Examination Report listed "tow" (two), "twelf", "fivety", "houndred" and "severn" as commonly misspelt

"Spelling will always be a

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"These examples illustrate that it was ever thus, and though we should always strive to improve, the cuphoric glow of past grandeur and excellence in education must remain a figment of a fertile imagination.

Christopher Bellamy Defence Correspondent

The army yesterday launched its new motto: "Build - Don't Break. Train -Don't Select", and introduced measures to increase recruitment Despite being 5,000 soldiers short, John Reid, the armed forces minister. denied that the army would lower the standards expected of trained troops.

"Army training needs modernisation not mollycoddling". Dr Reid said. "Recruits will do more training, not less." Dr Reid was speaking at the launch of the new Army Training and Recruitment Agency at Pirbright, Surrey. This agency has been set up in the hope that the army will not only get enough recruits but keep them.

As part of the recruitment drive, the army will increase "pre-training" to a possible six weeks. Until last year, when pre-training was first introduced 25 per cent of recruits were completely failing the basic training. Pre-training reduced that level to 17 per cent.

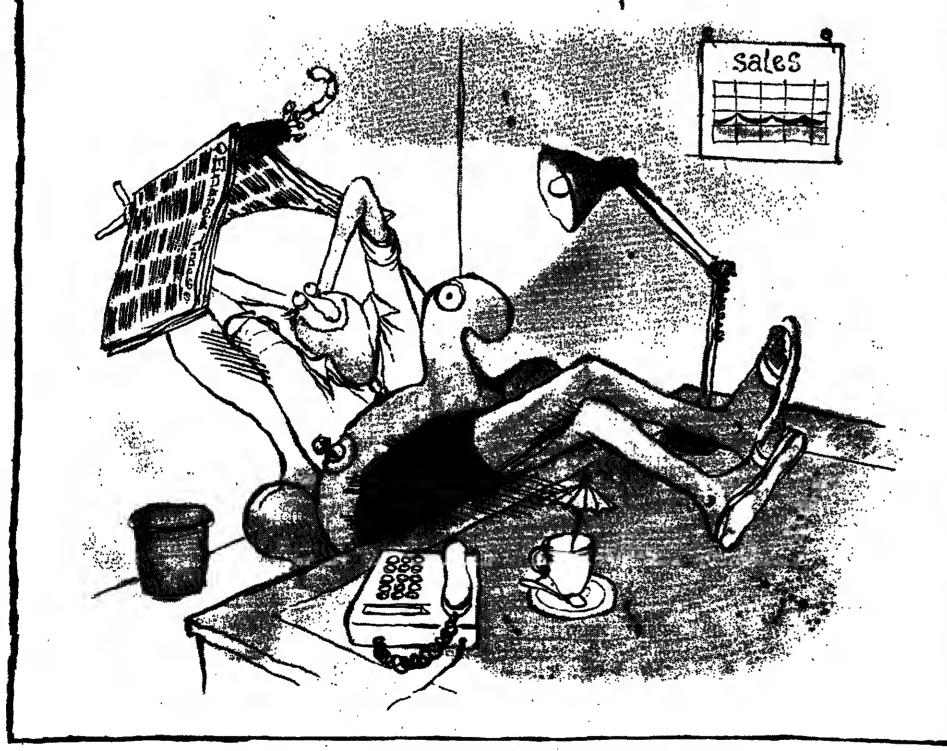
pa Ti



Turning a blind eye: The armed forces minister, John Reid, walks past a new recruit who fell while training

Photograph: Tom Pilston

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Political picto Diana brea stirs un a row

Political Correspondent

The Foreign Secretary stepped in to defend Princess Diana yes-terday after she came under fire for telling a magazine that the Tories were "hopeless" on the issue of landmines.

But despite the Princess's apparent belief that Labour has been "straight" on the issue, and its imposition of a ban on the use of mines by British troops, The Independent has discovered that thousands of soldiers are still receiving train-

ing in how to plant them.
The Princess had been quoted in the French magazine Le Monde as saying: "Labour's position has always been absolutely clear. It's going to do terrific work. Its predecessor was absolutely hopeless."

Yesterday she was forced to issue a statement claiming that she had never made the criticism and had always remained apolitical. However, Robin Cook had already moved to capitalise on the reported com-

"I am very pleased she recognises the Labour Government shares her concern and has already made very substantial progress towards signalling Britain's complete withdrawal from the production and trade in landmines. I have immense admiration for the courage she has shown in taking such a lead on this issue," he said. Opposition politicians and

anti-mines groups have reacted angrily to the revelation that a loophole in the moratorium announced in May has allowed British forces to continue exactly as they did before it.

The Royal Engineers, who make up 9 per cent of the army, with almost 10,000 troops, continue to be trained in the use, detection and countering of still taught how to drop HB 876 bombs - also included in the ban which are designed to sit in battlefield rubble and to explode when clearance teams move in.

Three people are killed or in-jured by landmines every hour in countries including Angola, Bosnia, Cambodia and Afghanistan. The weapons can

the limbs of farmers and villagers who return to their land. In its manifesto, Labour promised an immediate moratorium on the use of mines, but when it made a formal announcement three weeks after the election it banned only "operational use," thus allowing training and testing to continue.

remain in the ground for years before exploding when they are disturbed, often blowing off

A further rider added that they could still be used if ministers believed they were necessary for the security of British

A spokeswoman for the Ministry of Defence confirmed that testing and training were continuing as before, though the majority of training was in counter-mine measures. The Royal Engineers were taught anti-mine warfare while other soldiers going to areas such as Bosnia were given specific train-

Troops need to maintain viability in case the situation should arise where it was necessary for the security of our troops. Ministers would obviously think very carefully before making such decisions," she said.

The han will take full effect in 2005 if an international moratorium does not come in earlier. Britain has spent £30m since 1991 on mine clearance. There are no figures on how many mines britain still holds, though it is believed there are tens of thousands. Half have now been destroyed with a view to phasing them out.

The Liberal Democrat defence spokesman, Menzies Campbell, said the public had been led to believe there was a complete ban. "Certainly if was not made clear to the House of Commons that this was the case. A little more frankness would have been welcome."

Letters, page 13

A-levels win image battle with GNVQs

Education Editor

Exam officials and ministers yesterday welcomed the growing popularity of vocational qualifications, introduced as an alternative to GCSE and A-level, but academics said they were failing to compete with

More than 90,000 students achieved full General National Vocational Qualifications this year, an increase of more than 10 per cent on last year. For the advanced GNVQ, the proportion achieving the equivlent of et least one A-level was almost 70 per cent.

Kim Howells, the education and employment minister, said the Government was committed to strengthening vocational qualifications. "GNVQs continue to gain in popularity with some 240,000 students having achieved full GNVO awards in the five years since the qualification was launched. They are a motivating and rewarding option for more and

more young people." he said. But Professor Alan Smithers of Brunel University said that advanced GNVQs were struggling to establish themselves in competition with A-level. There was en increase in completions

of only 6,000 this year compared to 1996, whereas in English A-level alone there were 7,000 more passes.

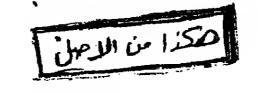
The proportion of students who successfully completed a full advanced GNVQ, the equivalent of two A-levels, fell slightly this year to just under half. Exam board officials said that it is too soon to say why the completion rate for advanced GNVQs was down. One possibility may be changes in the course

Professor Smithers said: "GNVQs do not seem to be establishing themselves as the equivalent of A-level in the way that we hoped. They are seen as qualifications for people who cannot cope with A-level. We need to look again at 16-19 education and at the suggestion, for instance, that A-level and GNVQ Business Studies should come together as an applied A-level.

Unlike A-level and GCSE there is no final exam for GN-VQs. Instead, students' work is assessed by a series of pieces of coursework and tests which may take longer than two years

This year, the proportion of advanced GNVQ students who received offers of university places was 94 per cent, up 2 per





Cath für

news

itical. Job-share victory breaks glass ceiling

Labour Editor

A ground-breaking settlement announced yesterday will make it easier for women at senior levels to force employers to agree a joh-share following maternity leave.

Management at the Zurich Insurance Company has signed a £20,000 out-of-court settlement with marketing manager Janet Schofield, who was refused such an arrangement

and claimed sex discrimination. Although the informal agreement between the company and Ms Schofield will not form a precedent in future cases, the Equal Opportunities Commission, which backed the litigation, believes companies will now think twice before refusing a

job-share without good reason. Ms Schofield, 36, said that during ber four years with Zurich at its Portsmouth offices, many people worked hard to ensure equal opportunities. But a few senior managers only paid lip service to the idea: I was told that if I wanted to work for the company I would have to be prepared to work a

seven day week. That made me

angry and so I decided to stand up and be counted," she said. After the birth of her first child in 1995, Ms Schofield sought to return part-time to her job as a marketing support manager with Zurich's life assurance division. She was told there were overwhelming business reasons for insisting that the job should be full-time.



management's objections, but tried to set up a job share involving a different post in another department. The company contended there were sound arguments for the

Hampshire, disagreed and decided to take the company to an industrial trihunal. Elizabeth Hodder, deputy £40,000-a-year job being done chairwoman of the commis-

by one person working full-time. sion, said that access to job-Ms Schofield, of Winchester, shares and part-time working shares and part-time working was a crucial issue for women in senior posts. "If women are ever to break through the glass ceiling, it is essential that employers offer family-friendly

policies." She pointed out that women made up 55 per cent of workers in non-manual jobs, but still accounted for only 15 per cent of senior and middle

"Employers have to show

ALLIANCE LEICESTER

strong objective reasons for not making job-sharing available to staff with family responsibilities. Intelligent employers already know that practices which encourage mothers to return to work maximise the return on

Winner: Janet Schofield has received e settlement of £20,000 after being refused a job share by her employers following maternity leave Photograph: Adrian Dennis

their financial investment. Keeping the skills and experience of senior staff and reducing retraining and turnover costs is good business sense.

Together with the financial settlement. Zurich has agreed to review its job-share policy for senior staff. Linda Taylor, the company's employee relations manager, insisted that Zurich bad a strong commitment 10 equal opportunities and pointed out that its workforce in Britain was almost exactly 50 per cent cent male and 50 per cent female. Out of 315 managers, 42 were women and two out of 11 senior directors were female, Ms Taylor said.

The company also employed people on part-time and jobshare arrangements and allowed flexible working hours for those with family responsibilities. Ms Taylor said the company was happy to agree the senlement with its former employee, but it did so for "commercial and practical" reasons without any admission of liability.

She accepted the validity of Safety plea to parents as cot deaths rise

Alexandra Williams

The number of cot deaths in the United Kingdom has risen for the first time in eight years, figures released yesterday reveal. The Foundation

Study of Infant Deaths fears that last year's 6 per cent increase could signal complacency. The figures reverse a downward trend which had seen cot deaths fall by 61 per cent between 1991 and 1995. The charity is urging parents to follow its six-point plan, Reduce the Risk, which resulted in the dramatic reduction in cot deaths in the first half of this decade.

Last year, 441 babies died unexpectedly within a year of birth in England and Wales, a rate of about 70 out of every 100,000 live hirths, according to figures drawn up by the Office for National Statistics. Provisional figures provided by the foundation suggest there were a further 43 cot deaths in Scotland and 15 in Northern Ireland, bringing the national total to 499.

Cot death, or Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, is the most common killer of babies aged between one month and one year, accounting for the death of almost 10 babies each week. The number of deaths is substantially greater than the number of children under-15 killed on the

roads, or who develop cancer. Experts said it may materialise that the increase is a statistical anomaly. Richard Cooke, professor of paediatric medicine at Liverpool University, said: "Perhaps this is a blip. It's too early to rush around in a mad panic. I suspect it's just

a wobble. We couldn't expect the figures to keep going down. What's interesting is that a third of the increase is made up of changes in Northern Ireland and in Scotland there was

Professor Cooke said cot death was more prevalent in less privileged groups, due to changes in child management. "It's not a single disorder, it's a result of many things impinging on a vulnerable child. It used to be widely spread, but we are finding more and more that it occurs less in better off families. In a recent survey in Liverpool, more then 80 per cent of mothers whose babies died of cot death, were heavy smokers. And heavy smoking amongst mothers tends to be in

the poorer groups," he said. Joyce Epstein, the foundation's secretary-general, said: "While parents shouldn't feel unduly panicked, any increase is a worry, every single baby's death is tragic. We don't know exactly why this has occurred. we hope it is just a one-off rise. What is clear is that further research is still needed to shed

light on to why babies die." Doctors advise parents to follow the foundation's sixpoint Reduce the Risk plan: Put bahies on their backs to

■ Cut smoking during preg-nancy – fathers too; Don't let anyone smoke in the same room as the baby;

■ Don't let the baby get too hot: ■ Keep the baby's bead ■ If the baby is unwell, seek

medical help promptly.

DAILY POEM

Morwenstow

By Charles Causley

Where do you come from, sea, To the sharp Cornish shore, Leaping up to the raven's crag? From Labrador.

Do you grow tired, sea? Are you weary ever When the storms burst over your head?

Ane you hard as a diamond, sea, As iron, as oak? Are you stronger than flint or steel?

And the lightning stroke.

Ten thousand years and more, sea You have gobbled your fill. Swallowing stone and state! I am hungry still.

When will you rest, sea? When moon and sun Ride only fields of salt water And the land is gone.

This week's Daily Poems celebrate the 80th birthday of the Gornish poet Charles Causley. His Collected Poems 1941-1997 is published by Macmillan (£20) and his Selected Poems for Children by Macmillan Children's Books (£5.99).

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harvest, writes Elizabeth Nash, starting a series on marijuana in Morocco

lt looks like a bumper

Chefchaouen - The young woman flashed a smile and waved a cheery greeting as she approached across a stuhhled field. She was bent double under a swaying burden of newly cut kif, the cannahis plant that produces the resin or hashish known throughout Europe as Moroccan black. The luxuriant fronds waved as she walked sending fierce gusts of a pun-gent, heady aroma wafting on the

We had trekked for more than three hours up mountain paths behind the ancient Berber town of Chefchaouen in Morocco's northern Rif mountains, clamhering among fragrant pines to reach precipitous limestone rocks. I wanted to see the kif harvest, and Mustafa (not his real name) took the opportunity to take me to the village where his family had some land.

The cultivable land around the little mountain hamlet was covered with dark green cannahis, or Indian bemp. We walked amid fields of kif. whose delicate serrated leaves hrushed my shoulders. Denselypacked tips exuded a pungent gummy goo, and broke off in my fingers

with a succulent "ping". Mustafa warned me sternly to lose

my little souvenir before leaving the area. Cultivation is not illegal - no Moroccan government has dared to provoke a revolt among the warrior Berbers by banning their favourite agricultural activity – but possession and trafficking is severely punished. Farmers predict that 1997 will be

a bumper year. "From the amount of land under cultivation, and the quality of the plant. I'd say we were in for a higger crop than usual," reckoned one observer. "The sun and the rain came at the right time and in the right quantities."

In coming weeks, hundreds of tons of this season's Moroccan hlack will start its clandestine journey across the Mediterranean through Spain and the Netherlands, sub-divided from dealer to dealer with a higger markup at every step, to end up for sale in London or Manchester at 50 times the price paid to small producers around Chefchaouen. Up to 70 per cent of hashish entering Britain is reckoned to originate from this remote but populnus region, in an illegal trade that is pros-pering, despite efforts by the authorities to stamp it out. The Grass That Heals, Allah's

Chocolate and Madame Tranquille are among the local names, but, speaking in the Spanish lingua fran-ca of the north, Mustafa called it simply La Planta - the plant.

It was Friday, and as we approached an ancient mosque, a dozen or so men who had gathered for prayers were sitting quietly un-der the fig trees in their long cream robes having a smoke. They showed me the long wooden pipe that unscrews into three handy pieces, with its tiny bowl into which they pressed a thimbleful of this year's kif mixed with last year's tobacco. It was, they agreed, going to be a good year.



Smoke screen: Moroccan families would rather grow kif, or cannabis, which is twice as profitable as wheat and easier to tend

All around, bundles of plant were laid tidily on the flat roofs of the villagers' houses, or on the ground, or on the little makeshift fences of tangled branches that delineated individual plots and stopped the goats

Some of the stalks were being pecked by chickens, a good sign, Mustafa said. "When the chickens eat the plant they lay good eggs and more often."

We strode on and up, past a few rows of tomatoes and peppers, and a wedge of land devoted to maize. Many villagers do not even bother to grow subsistence crops, which need careful tending and watering. They prefer to grow kif - which flourishes without great attention - and harter at the market for staples like potatoes and onions. Mustafa thought there seemed far more land devoted to kif than when he last visited some years back.

Even the local agricultural au-thorities concede kif is twice as profitable as alternatives such as wheat, and that hefty subsidies will ALGERIA

grow alternative crops. "We have nothing else," the villagers say. There were few signs of affluence.

kinsman complained at the lack of electricity. They boiled up the tin teapot over a butane gas cylinder and said that at night they had only gaslight. It was harsh and hright and made it difficult to adjust to the dark-ness, uncomfortable for a people who navigate mountain ranges by the moon and stars.

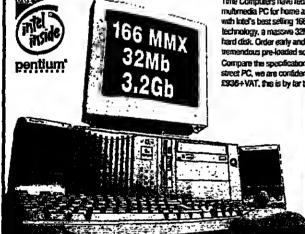
As we walked on across the mountain, looking down on the clusters of houses, we waved to a man sitting on his roof, carefully plucking off the leaves to keep to smoke at home. leaving the close-packed seeds and pollen heads - the eyes. In coming days, these would be laid over a fine straw net for the resin to seep through to he collected and pressed nto dark brown tablets of hashish or

The best quality hashish, the socalled Sputnik Double-zero, was from this first natural draining process. Then the farmers would gently tap and hruise the plant with a stick to produce more, though of inferior quality. A thousand kilos of plant produces 1kg of average

Local traders would later comb the region, buying up the blocks, often loading them on mules for the 30or 40-mile journey north through mountain passes to the sea, where bigger dealers, perhaps the Italian mafia or Spanish networks assisted by Britons on the Costa, would assume the risky - but immensely profitable - business of shipping the hashish, strapped into 30-kilo bails,

On our way hack down to Chefchaouen - whose name means "look at the horns of the mountain" we ran the gauntlet of a group of smiling young goatherds, harrying their charges and tootling on their flutes. And as we neared the town, we came upon a wedding party, raucous with the music of strings and trumpets. Some little girls giggled and pranced in gold-threaded caftans and one paused to hitch her skirt clear of the ground, then skipped down the cobbled steps in her pointed velvet

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US troops 'fought in Zaire' Previously, the US has admit- They were, ostensibly, recruited ted only that its advisers were training Rwandans in mine removal and concepts of military US military advisers trained the Rwandan army, and former

United States special services The leaked document denies troops fought in the civil war in that serving US military perthe former Zaire over the last sonnel were involved with the two years, according to the Rwandan army inside Zaire, alnugside the ultimately suc-French newspaper Le Monde. The newspaper says that it cessful rebel forces of Laurent has seen an internal Pentagon document which confirms that French intelligence sources be-lieve that up to 60 farmer US US military advisers helped to train Rwandan officers in comhat command techniques.

US government policy.

Paris has heen deeply suspicious about US intentions in the Monde was prepared for a Conregion since the bloody Rwandan civil war of 1994 removed a genocidal pro-French Hutu regime in Kigali and replaced Kahila. But Le Monde says it with an Angkiphone, pro-American Tutsi regime. French officials have suggested that the

Seko was materially supported by Washington. There have been unproven counter-suggestions that French mercenaries served with Mobutu's forces.

The document seen by Le gressinnal committee investigating claims by a US group, Physicians for Human Rights, of direct US involvement in the Zairean conflict. The paper donics this allegation. But it admits special servicemen did serve on Rwandan-supported rebellion Rwandans in "tactical skills" that 200 US troops trained against President Mobutu Sese and "basic rifle marksmanship".



a young couple with three children, and offered syrupy mint tea. Kif fronds peeped over the hole in the We were invited into the one- roof that served as a skylight, but his hashish or between 300g and 600g of the superior stuff.

to markets in the north.

Death calls time for an old man at Safari Bar

James Roberts

They had done their best to clean the Safari Bar in Likoni yesterday, but it still smelled of blood. "It was all old man's hlood," said Priscilla Lacela, one of three women, all heavy with shock, who were watching over the otherwise empty premises. "He was my neigh-bour, my very good friend."

The friend she was talking about was Samuel Kamau, the owner of the bar, who was murdered along with his son, David, during an armed raid on Sunday evening. The raid was the latest atrocity to mark the run-up to Kenya's elections, the date of which President Daniel arap Moi is expected to spring on the nation at any moment. In the last elections, in 1992, the focus of violence was the Rift Valley. This year, it is Likoni, a sprawling township just across the water from Mombasa, where 46 people have been killed in the past two weeks.

Ms Lacela was at the bar yesterday giving what support she could to two women Kamau employed to manage the place - Grace Sila, who was not working on the night of the attack, and 35-year-old Hadija Mohamed, who was,

Ms Lacela explained that the Kamau family were away making the funeral arrangements. happened on Sunday night.

John Lichfield Paris

They then took Hadija into the attack, an act to which Mr Moi

"Only one man came first," sbe said. "He wanted drinking water, and jumped over the gate. I told him there was no water, then another jumped over and opened the gate. The others invaded - about 100 of them. They wore uniforms, military clothes, and high boots if you kick a door it just goes.

everything.

They went through to the owner's room, straight to it, they knew where it was. They stabbed the old man, cutting open his abdomen. After he fell, and his intestines fell out, they followed the son. The son said 'Don't kill me! The lady has all

They were armed with guns and

the money.' I gave them all the money, 34,800 shillings (£350)

bush and threw her into a ditch, warning her that she was not to make a noise or they would come back and finish her. Otherwise, they were not going to kill her as she came from this area. The police have not been vig-ornus in their pursuit of the

killers. In fact, once they heard about the uniforms of the raiding party, they were gone within three minutes. Their caution is not surprising as the 46 dead Two decomposing bodies dis-covered outside Likoni on Monstation on 13 August, in which nine people, including several

include 10 of their number. day were of officers missing since an attack on Likoni police policemen, died. A large stockpile of arms was stolen after that

I gave them." Sanctuary: Children in the grounds of the Catholic church, Likoni, where their families seek safety Photograph: AP

rugated iron built on dirt roads. Its inhabitants, a mixture of lo-

cal people and diverse incomers hoping to catch some of the trickle-down from the tourist boom, have rubbed along without ethnic conflict. But now, the tension is pal-

responded by setting a deadline

Likoni is a township of cor-

of one week for their return.

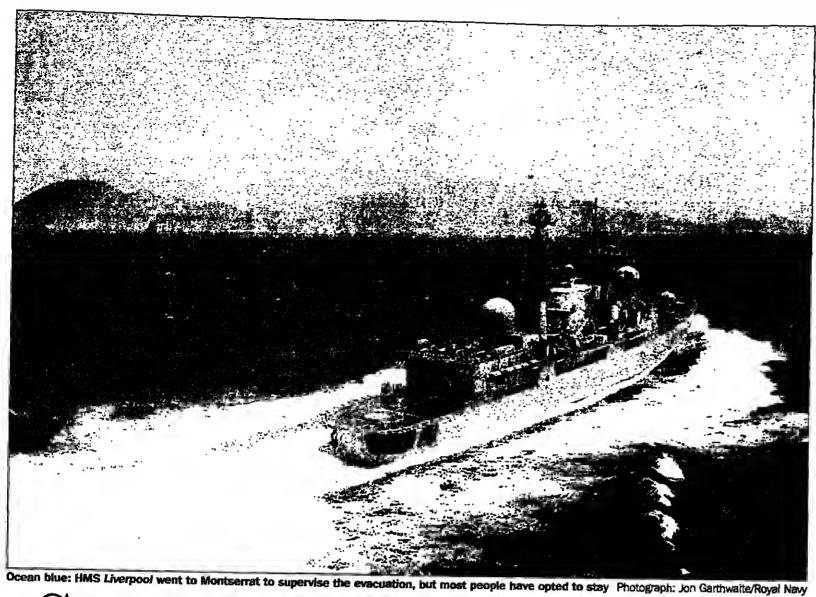
pable. The raiders have had one message. Up-country people must leave the area. And that message is being heeded. There is only one way in and out of Likoni, and that is by ferry from Mombasa. If the ferry were to stop, there would be no escape without the complication of deep water. The first thing to greet the visitor off the ferry is an abandoned police post.

Yesterday, scores of people acutely conscious of their vulnerability were pushing handcarts packed with their belongings off the ferry and up the road into Momhasa. Around 2,000 up-country people who have decided to leave their homes but have nowhere else to go are camped out in the grounds of the Catholic church, protected by soldiers at the gate and a wall thorned down its length by shards of glass.

Even so, gunmen raided the compound last Friday and killed two people. And it is not possible to find anyone who believes that the raid on the Safari

مكذا من الاحل

Cook steams into Montserrat crisis



Foreign Secretary orders policy review of dependent territories

Fran Abrams Political Correspondent Steve Crawshaw

Robin Cook has launched a six-month review of Britain's De-pendent Territories after admitting to a failure of communication over the Montserrat crisis. It also emerged last night that the House of Commons Select Committee on International Development is to reconvene to draw up a report on the Government's handling of the issue.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office officials will be asked to talk to each of the remaining 12 dependencies in the run-up to a major policy speech to the De-pendent Territories Associa-

lion (DTA) in February. The Foreign Secretary said: There has clearly been a failure of communication over the last few weeks - but not one of policy. We will go through the dozen territories and produce a eustom-made solution for each one. The aim is to give them confidence that we are committed to them for the future. We want to give them the maximum opportunity to get on with their own husiness."

Mr Cook, speaking to journalists on his aircraft en route to South-east Asia, said that a review of policy on the depen-

dent territories would be completed by next Fehruary, when he will address a DTA conference. The announcement won a warm reception from the DTA yesterday. Its chairman, Rom Russell, said: "We welcome the statement by the Foreign Secretary about the review of the dependent territories, in particular that he has taken a personal interest."

Mr Cook acknowledged that concerns over the future of Hong Kong and its 6.5 million inhabnants had dwarfed thinking on Britain's other dependencies in the past. The remaining territories include the Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Bermuda, the Cayman Islands, St Helena and the Pitcaim Islands.

It also emerged last night that the select committee planned an investigation into the hack-ground to the Montserrat crisis Bowen Wells, the Tory MP who chairs the committee, said he had written to its members and expected them to agree to reconvene. Some would probably visit the island.

We recognise that this is an emergency and that there are very serious accusations being handed round. I think it is likely that we should get to the bottom of it," he said.

The Liberal Democrats claimed credit for both announcements last night, saying

they had nudged both the gov-ernment and Mr Wells into action. Menzies Campbell, the foreign affairs spokesman, said he had written to Mr Cook on the matter last week. He added that the review should lead to an offer of British citizenship for all the inhabitants of the territories - at present they

do not have the right to live here.
The people of the dependent territories are British subjects and it is time they were treated with the respect they deserve," he said.

After the sidelining on Monday of Clare Short, Secretary of State for International Development, Mr Cook issued a statement which appeared to praise Ms Short and her department for the work that they had done.

But Foreign Office officials do not hide their disdain for the way that Ms Short and her deputy, George Foulkes, have handled matters. As one official noted: "They haven't done the best of jobs in winning hearts and minds in recent days."

Ms Short was keen to take responsibility for managing the volcano crisis, when it first erupted. Mr Cook is unlikely to regret the fact that Ms Short has been left with political egg on her face. The apparent message is that a "safe pair of hands" is needed. Leading article, page 13

Cramped islanders find a listening ear

Phil Davison

On board HMS Liverpool

The Rev Sally Theakston, the only female Anglican chaplain in the Royal Navy, came on board this British destroyer on Tuesday to help the warship's crew and onshore Montserratians cope with volcano-related

The chaplain came on board at St John's, Antigua, with the role of being "a friend and ad-viser, and a listening ear, to all on board and to any Montserrations I can help".

Ms Theakston, a leading figure in the fight to have women ordained, said she felt close to the islanders because there were many Montserratians in her earlier Anglican church congregation of St John at Hackney. "I have two bosses,

God and the captain," she said. The 4-5,000 Montserrations still on the island are increasingly complaining of stress, not

major volcanic eruption but hecause of cramped living con-cording to one of his officers. ditions in the tiny northern zone where they are now

The 250-member crew of the Liverpool, including around 30 women, are suffering mainly from a continuing cloudstream of black volcanic ash, which gets into the eyes and throat. The ash was particularly thick on Tuesday as Captain David Snelson tnok the ship past the ahandoned capital of Plymouth, now a light grey wasteland of boulder-battered, hurnt-out and ash-covered buildings.

The HMS Liverpool came to Montserrat to supervise the "voluntary evacuation" of those of the remaining islanders who opted to leave for nearby islands or Britain. But as the volcano quietened down last week, most people opted to stay. "We came here expecting a large evacuation that hasn't happened," Captain Snelson said. "There

are more people going back to

Although 1,000 islanders registered for the evacuation, only 35 left during the first three days. There have usually been at least that number on the daily ferry going in the opposite direction. Some of these are relatives coming back to help

their families pack. Others are

confident the volcano will not

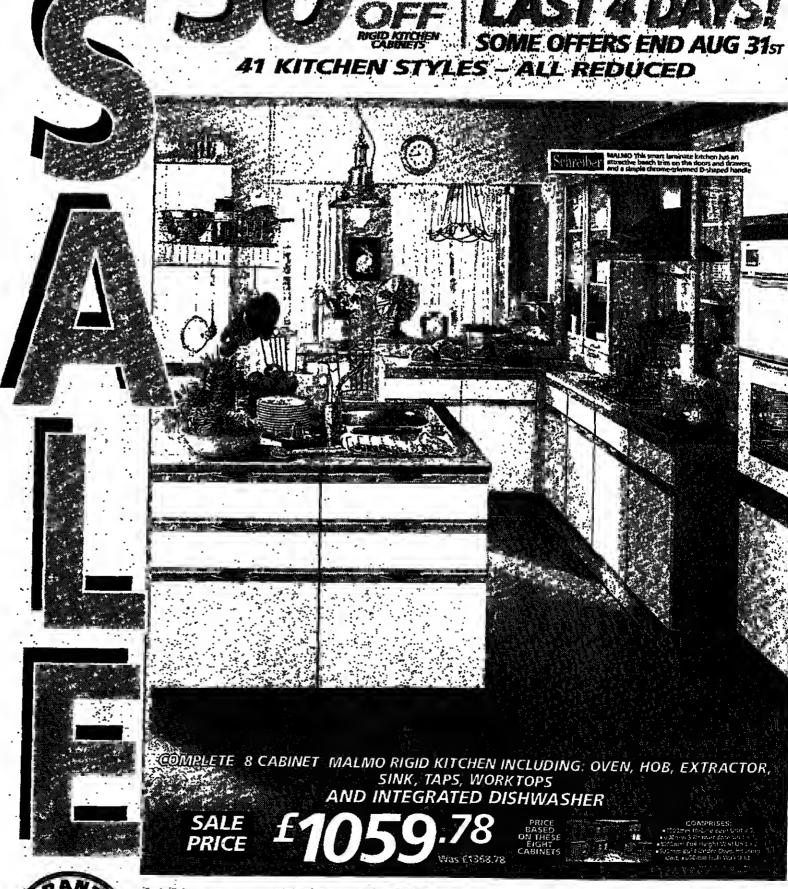
affect the north of the island and that it will be developed with

British aid.

"We have made some changes. When we announced yesterday that people would be able to get their airline tickets [from Antigua to Britain] here on the island, a cheer went up," said Mary Strode, of the aid management office of the Department for International Development. "We think that system will be more popular and it saves us money on Antigua botels. People didn't like the idea

of going to Antigua and waiting."

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tc

Milosevic enters Bosnian fray

Andrew Gumbel

Slobodan Milosevic, the strong-man of Serbia, looks set to fly into Serb-controlled Bosnia today or tomorrow - his first visit to the region since the height of the war - to intervene in the increasingly hitter power struggle hetween supporters of his of the crisis, he would get the erstwhile protege, Radovan Karadzic, and the current darling of the western diplomats. the Bosnian Serb President.

A Nato spokesman in Sara-jevo said that Mr Milosevic had sought permission to fly from Belgrade to Banja Luka, Mrs Playsic's headquarters, sometime later this week and the trip looked like a classic Milosevic manoeuvre to ensure that, whatever the outcome

credit for clearing it up. The power struggle in the so-called Republika Srpska, as the Serb-held north and east of Bosnia is known, has reached new heights of bitterness since the weekend, when Mrs Plavsic succeeded in wresting control of the Banja Luka studios of statecontrolled television.

Thanks almost certainly to the noisy support she has received from the West, she has also won over as many as half the deputies in the Bosnian Serb parliament, a sizeable chunk of the police and possibly 50 per cent of the mini-state's army

commanders.
Mr Karadzic's followers, led

by the Serb member of the three-man Bosnian federal presseparate units. idency, Momcilo Krajisnik, have seen their power base in Pale, in the mountains above Saraie-

vo, gradually chipped away since the crisis erupted in July. Western governments are portraying the conflict as a stand-off between a pragmatic Mrs Playsic - seen as willing to

tioning Bosnia into two or three

The reality is more complicated than that, since Mrs Playsic is an unrepentant nationalist with some highly unsavoury characters in her camp. While it is true that Mr Krajisnik has been organising a high-ly lucrative black economy, he take steps to implement the Dayton peace accords – and a hardline Mr Krajisnik, who is matic talk as long as the pay-off

interested ultimately in parti- tor in the whole equation is Mr Karadzic, the number-one vanted man at the international war crimes tribunal.

The struggle boils down to that subject on which Mr Milosevic is so learned - power. Up to now, the master manipulator of Balkan politics has played both sides against the middle, overtly supporting Mrs Plavsic one day while making little se-cret of keeping lines of commumication open with the other

significant shorts

Israelis ease travel ban curbs on Palestinians

Responding to local and international pressure. Israel last Responding to local and international pressure, israel 1881, night lifted a month-long ban on Bethlehem Arabs travelling to other parts of the West Bank. The army also began to let Christian pilgrims from abroad visit Jesus's hirthplace unimpeded. Like the rest of the 2 million West hirthplace unimpeded. Like the rest of the 2 million West Bank and Gaza Strip Palestinians, however, the 60,000 inhabitants of Bethlehem and its neighbouring villages are still barred from calcains Israel. The closure was imposed to still barred from entering Israel. The closure was imposed after two suicide bombers killed 14 Israeli civilians in a Jerusalem market on 30 July.

Eric Silver - Jerusalem

N Korea suspends US talks

North Korea followed the defection of a high-level diplomat by suspending talks with the US designed to curbits missile sales abroad and a build-up at home. It told the State Department that its negotiators were returning to Pyongyang. The talks were due to open yesterday in New York and run for three days.

AP — Washington

Disco bombing suspect held

Musbah Abulghasem Eter, a Libyan who fled Germany after allegedly confessing to a role in the 1986 bombing of a Berlin disco was arrested as he strolled down a Rome. street. The disco bombing killed two US soldiers and a Turkish woman, and injured 230, many of them American soldiers. The attack prompted the US administration to order the bombings of Libya's two biggest cities in April

Paris's new spymaster

France appointed a left-winger, Jean-Jacques Pascal, to head the country's counter-espionage operations, the Direction de la Surveillance du Territoire. He has been police personnel director and head of the Renseignements. Generaux, the political intelligence unit.

Croatian Serbs trek home

More than 200 Croatian Serbs left the enclave of Eastern Slavonia to return to their homes across Croatia in the biggest such movement so far. Eastern Slavonia, which has been run by the UN for a year and a half, should revert to Zagreb rule in January next year. Between 110,000 and 140,000 Serbs are estimated live there. Reuters - Zagreb

Orthodox approach

The head of the Russian Orthodox Church, Alexiy II, said that "North American standards" of freedom of religion should not he applied to Russia. "We must completely bar proselytising." Alexiy said, referring to "non-traditional" faiths, following a meeting with the archbishop of Vienna. Reuters - Moscow

Follow that car

Police in the Brazilian city of Recife were left without. transport after authorities seized about 100 stolen cars being used by officers. "It was normal practice for ... detectives and inspectors to commandeer stolen cars and : use them as if they were their own," said Pedro-Francisco da Silva, a spokesman for the security department of Pernamhuco state. Reuters - Brasilia

Swiss sterilisation scandal

Swiss women's groups reacted with shock and outrage to revelations by a historian that doctors sterilised mentally gainst their will under a law passe in 1928. Hans Ulrich Jost, a professor of history at the University of Lausanne, told Swiss television that many Swiss people - nine out of 10 of them women - were affected by the campaign in the French-speaking western canton of Vaud. He said that a copy of the law, which was passed in Vaud in 1928, was requested by Adolf Hitler in 1934 as a basis for Nazi Germany's own racist legislation.

Sweden's Olympic fears

A week before the 2004 Olympics site is chosen, Stockholm's bopes of winning are overshadowed by threats that terrorists will strike again. A shadowy extremist group opposed to Stockholm's bid claimed responsibility for Monday's bomhing of Sweden's largest stadium, the New Ulled in Container. The deim was contained in a letter Ullevi in Goteborg. The claim was contained in a letter sent from Sweden and received by The Associated Press in AP - Stockholm

Gulf Americans warned

The US embassy in Kuwait told Americans in the Gulf state to be cautious after a caller warned of a possible attack against a US target today. Reuters - Ku



Jospin buoyed up by the economic tide

Everything is going right for Lionel Jospin: except for those things which

are beginning to go wrong.
The French Prime Minister travels to Bonn today to give what amounts to a political and economic progress report to Chancellor Helmut Kohl. Since their last, difficult tête-à-tête in Poitiers in June, Mr Jospin's position has been greatly strengthened, partly through luck, partly through skill.

The French economy is picking up: the markets have swallowed, for now. the promise that France will almost make the entry guidelines for monetary union this year; the franc remains usefully weak but not in free-fall; inflation barely exists; exports are booming; opinion polls are encouraging; the right-wing opposition is mostly engaged m savaging itself. For once, the Franco-German summit may be more pre-occupied with German publical and

economic problems than French ones. But Mr Jospin faces a somewhat rougher ride when he goes on to the summer university" of his own mortgaged to Maastricht and an up-

French Prime Minister enjoys greater popularity in his country than with his political allies, writes John Lichfield in Paris

weekend. After three months of grace. the radical wing of the party, and Mr Jospin's Communist and Green coalition partners, are beginning to growl at his methodical and centrist approach

to government.
The immediate cause of the unrest is not economic. The left has reluctantly accepted that Maastricht will take precedence over most of the economic precedence over most of the economic ideas on which the Socialists campaigned successfully in May. There is to be no large increase in state-spending; the plan to reduce the working week to 35 hours will probably be put off for three years; the promise of TO fitth state paid or sabadding jube for the young will be phased in gradually, there will be no miraculous cure for unemployment. Everything will be

3 per cent next year).
In return, parts of the left and the
Greens had hoped for some form of emotionally-satisfying, symbolic leftward shift in cost-free social policy, especially on immigration. Mr Jospin let it be known this week, however, that he would introduce only cosmetic changes to the restrictions on immigration, and the tougher controls on illegal immigration, introduced by

successive right-wing governments. This has been greeted as a betrayal. Hundreds of thousands of left-leaning French people, led by prominent in-tellectuals, demonstrated against the more as presented as long mine of the laws in March. Mr Jospin himself (reluctantly) joined one of the demon-strations. The Socialist programme in the May election promised to abolish

Socialist party in La Rochelle at the turn in growth (now forecast to reach all the laws and start from scratch. In fact, the proposals put forward by the interior minister, Jean-Pierre Chevenement, accepted the thrust of a judicial inquiry and suggested that the existing. laws be softened in places but mostly preserved. The Greens warned yesterday that the proposals "would cause a serious crisis of confidence, within the governing majority, and between this majority and its electors". A Socialist deputy, Yann Galut, warned that Mr Jospin would have enormous difficul-ties getting the proposals through the

National Assembly. The issue is a dangerous one for Mr Jospin. It divides the Socialists down one of the most explosion fault lines be-tween the mostly middle class "moral" left on the one hand and the more working class "economic" left on the other Mr Chevenement, head of a populist.

Socialist splinter party, is one of the fiercest opponents of Maastricht but close to white, working-class opinion on immigration. His silence on the pro-EMU approach of the Jospin adminis-tration may depend partly on being given his own way on immigration policy.

What is more surprising is that Mr Jospin's retreat from campaign promis-es across a broad front has not damaged his popularity in the country. It was precisely the accusation that they had campaigned on one set of policies, and governed with others, which mortally damaged the previous adminis-tration of Alain Juppé. Mr Jospin is

getting away with it, so far.

As Le Figure said yesterday, the Prime
Minister has perfected the art of "walking backwards on tip-toes". How to explain this paradox? Partly, it seems, the
French instinctively like and trust the school-masterly Mr Land, where they instructively disliked and distrusted the bureaucratic Mr Juppé. But the sense of a rising economic "de may also be hucying up Mr Jospin's popularity.



Japanese aim high with Concorde-san

Richard Lloyd Party Tokyo

The Japanese government is developing a supersonic pas-senger aircraft, three times the size of Concorde, which could fly between Tokyo and London in little more than five hours.

Concorde-san, as the new project is likely to become known, is intended to carry 300 passengers, about the same size as the current generation of sub-sonic jumbo jets. It will fly at a speed of Mach 24 compared to Mach 0.85 for a Boeing 747-400, drastical-ly reducing the current flight time of 11 to 13 hours between

Japan and western Europe.

Travality value approach
travel is one of the holy grails of
the aerospace industry. But the high cost of the technology, has so far rendered projects like Concorde unprofitable. The Japanese aircraft is being developed by the Ministry of Trade and International Industry in collaboration with a consortium of private companies including Mitsubishi Heavy Industries.

Last year, the ministry spent 3.75bn yen (£20m) on the research and development of a Mach 5 supersonic engine known as HYPR, and it is hop-

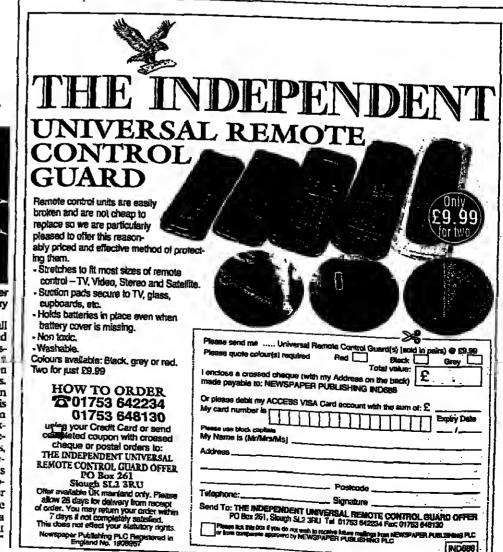


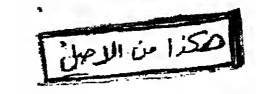
ing a supersonic aircraft body. used in passenger jets cannot withstand the 200 degrees centigrade temperatures generated through wind resistance during supersonic flight, and Mit-subishi hopes to come up with a carbon fibre compound altry capable of performing the task

Japan's aerospace industry
has had little impact on the international market, largely because the country's post-war
"peace constitution" forbids it from exporting any military number of civilian aircraft have

ing to spend ¥800m in 1998 on developed but they have all been commercial failures, and been commercial failures, and the latest effort, a small pas-"paper plane" and has not been manufactured in large numbers.

"They've proved that they can build aircraft, but the problem is selling and supplying them in competition with far more experienced companies the Boe-ing and Airbus, said Paul Lewis, Asia editor of Flight Interna-tional. "Their imagination has been caught by the dream of pro-ducing something futuristic for the 21st century, but if they've continually failed to build a small 100-seat jet, it's unlikely that







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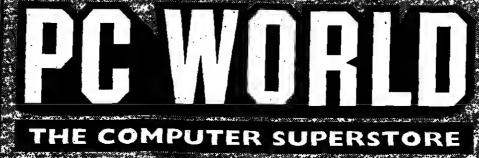
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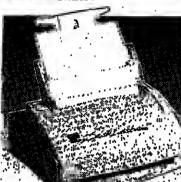
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David Warbeck

When David Warbeck first arrived in London from New Zealand in 1965 he must have quickly realised that his face was his fortune. Possessed of that brand of good looks usually described as ruggedly handsome, his powerfully masculine presence was the very stuff of an action-man hero or the dashing. firm-jawed lover on the cover of a Barbara Cartland romance.

He went on to achieve cult status as the star of a whole series of cheaply made, racy ltalian action movies, but it was as a photographic model that he quickly earned his early success, becoming a familiar image in conntless advertising shots across the world promoting everything from Courvoisier brandy and Martini to cable-knit pullovers, blue jeans and icecream. His modelling career proved lucrative and through the Seventies and Eighties he could command £300,000 for a couple of television commercials.

However the dual career he pursued for less money hut with far greater zest - and which appealed far more to his cheerfully extrovert sense of adventure and fun - was as an actor in a huge number of shock and horror movies. During 25 feverishly husy years he ap-peared in nearly 80 films. Most were Italian, many of deplorable quality, and nearly all of a genre known as exploitation or sexploitation films - and sometimes, to those in the

know, as "spaghetti splatter". In 1972 he got his first Italian film job in A Fistful of Dollars, actually a superior spaghetti western, directed by the redoubtable Sergio Leone. in which he was spotted by a wily Italian talent agent who secured him, five years later, the starring role in The Last Hunter which not only placed Warbeck firmly in the lead but had him cruelly menaced by strafing helicopter fire, rats, snakes. giant spiders and some appalling oriental actors.

Bearing such titles as Cat O'Nine Tails, Killer Fish, Zombie Flesheaters and Cosmic Killer, the posters for Warbeck's films invariably depict him fending off, with appropriate forti-tude, a whole barrage of lethal dangers including giant cobras, naked female vampires, whole armouries of deadly weapons, death rays from outer space, man-sized rats and frequently hlonde bimbos.

As a seasoned traveller in the gory land of schlock Warbeck's forte was to shoulder the burden of these absurd inventions with a light and easy assurance and much self-effacing charm, retaining in the face of all this lurid mayhem a reasonably straight-faced dignity. The fact was that he relished the nonsense which frequently enabled him to appear with such distinguished veterans as Joan Crawford, Ava Gardner, Anthony Quinn, Jack Pallance and Peter Cushing and he always expressed amused incredulity when the vagaries of changing taste elevated what Warbeck himself had regarded as cheerful, simple-minded trash high in the esteem of the fashionably avant-garde.

Six years ago the defiantly tasteless Russ Meyer was awarded a retrospective at the National Film Theatre when clips were shown from Black Snake - the whip! (1973) in which Warbeck had starred opposite the ubiquitously fashionable Anoushka Hempel. Warbeck's career too, was celebrated in 1994 at the Everyman Cinema, Hampstead, with screenings of his films such as City of the Living Dead and Zombie Flesheaters and at which he made a appearance accom-panied by his long-time direc-

for, Luccio Fulci. Warbeck, born David Mitchell, in Christchurch, New Zealand, was of Scottish descent and after school in Christchurch and invercargill he went on to train as an arts teacher. He also took up amateur dramatics where his dashing good looks and natural aptitude quickly got him accepted by a small professional company which toured local schools.

It was there that his work was rewarded with a New Zealand Arts Council scholarship to RADA. With his hride of one month he arrived in London in 1965 and enrolled at RADA where he remained for only four terms. His failure to finish at drama school did little to dent his progress however, and alongside his burgeoning career as a photographic model he began to appear regularly on television and in rep. Appropriately enough his first major role in the cinema was in 1971 in the Hammer horror film Twins of Evil, featuring a pair of vampiric fanged sisters.

A year later came A Fistful of Dollars and his break into the realms of Italian shock-horror. The big disappointment of his career, which prevented him from becoming universally known, was when he just missed being selected from the short list of contenders to play James Bond, following in the footsteps of Sean Connery and Roger

Warbeck was a warm, gregarious man with a boisterous sense of bumour who was genuinely beguiled by the fact that what he called "my truly awful films" became taken up by the new convoisseurs of schlock. With his easy, open, downunder charm he was also a generous and convivial bost who liked nothing better than to entertain with his wife, Lois, and his long-time friend David Lehal, at his extraordinary turreted Hampstead palazzo.

Known as the convent, this high Victorian gothic folly was built by associates of Sir George Gilbert Scott at the time of the construction of St Pancras Station and had been the scene of



Narbeck in Ark of the Sun God, one of 'my truly swful films', taken up by new composseurs of schlock

Grossmith and Ellen Terry would perform in the bouse's miniature salon theatre. For two decades David Warbeck lovingly devoted himself to the convent's restoration achieving an effect that was almost overwhelming, its cavernous crimmany a musical soirée when son interior displaying a beady Gilbert and Sullivan, George mix of mirror and gilt, cof-

fered ceilings, pointed arches, falling draperies and glittering knick-knacks; all merged together into a spectacular and esoteric fusion of camp and kitsch and the authentically Victorian. It could have served as the backdrop for one of his more exotic movie adventures, but for the ebullient British hero of Ital-

creature centred, Skelton's vi-

sion sees life as judged by death

inherent (as most myths have it)

Realising this lesson in tra-

ditionality reintroduces us lo the

range of Skelton's performance.

He wrote much poetry, there

are books on Synge (1971 and

1972) and he is the editor of the

work of the important poet

David Gascoyne (Collected Po-

Translations, 1970); and be was

co-founder and editor from

1967 of the substantial Malahat

Review, an issue of which was

devoted to the work of the un-

der-rated poet, art-critic and lit-

erary essayist Herbert Read

(whose poems were republished

by Sinclair-Stevenson in 1992).

and educated (Pocklington

Grammar School) and received

his MA at Leeds University in

1951. From lecturer in English

at Manchester University, he

became Centenary Lecturer

at the University of Massa-

chusetts in 1962, and a year lat-

er moved to Canada, becoming

Associate Professor of English,

then Professor, at the Univer-

sity of Victoria in British Columbia.

In a substantial article on his

poetry in Contemporary Poets

Skelton was Yorkshire-born

in creation.

ian schlock it provided the perfect setting.

Derek Granger

David Mitchell (David Warbeck), actor and model: born Christchurch, New Zealand 17 November 1941; married 1965 Lois Shephard (one daughter) died London 23 July 1997.



ems; 1965 and Collected Verse Skolton: a poet, then a teacher

longs not to one part but to the whole tradition of English poctry". True though this is, with the formula being more "Eng-lish poetry" than "poetry in Eng-lish languages", Skelton's move to Canada was undeservedly at the expense of attention to his work in the UK since.

Jon Silkin Robin Skelton, poet, critic and English scholar: born Easington, East Yorkshire 12 October 1925; Assistant Lecturer in English, Manchester University 1951, Lec-Manchester University 1951, Lec-auer 1954; Associate Professor of English, University of Victoria, British Columbia 1963-66, Pro-fessor of English 1966-91. Founder Chairman of Depart-ment of Creative Writing 1973-76; married 1957 Sylvia Jarrett (come son two dayshters): died (one son, two daughters); died Victoria, British Columbia, (1985) George Woodcock ends Victoria, British Coluby declaring that Skelton "be-Canada 22 August 1997.

Fergus Provan

Nearly 30 years ago Fergus Provan achieved renown as a London chef of great flair and invention. Today, in an era when smart new restaurants seem to open by the minute, television cookery programmes are more frequent than situation comedies, celebrity chefs share the spotlight with popstars, sportsmen and models and are themselves the flavour of the month, but then, Provan is of special interest having been a most unshowy and self-

effacing pioneer. He first came to prominence in October 1968, as both chef and restaurateur, when at the age of 27 and in partnership with his old friend and fellow Scot, Stewart Grimshaw, he opened a small restaurant next to the Brompton Cemetery in

London. The site Provan had chosen for his first venture was a disused ladder storeroom and much imagination and effort was put inm its conversion, with Provan masterminding the kitchen and Grimshaw the restaurant's style. In view of its location, the two partners were originally tempted to name it The Last Supper but eventually this whimsical notion was resisted in favour of the chef's sturdy, no-nonsense Scottish

It was as Provan's that the restaurant opened its doors, quickly achieving fame and suc-cess as one of the most popular places to eat out for the young trend-setters of the late

Unlike the gleaming, minimalist emporia of the mid-Nincties with their vast seating areas, brisk turnover of covers and now ohligatory resemhlance to beached transatlantic Thirties liners, Provan's was essentially a crowded, cosy ren-dezvous. With its hright yellow table cloths, plain décor and rattan furniture it represented the best that a simple restaurant could offer: good fresh food, unpretentious surroundings, modest prices, a high degree of friendly, personal service and a lively and amusing clientele - a clientele which appreciated the buge platters of fresh vegetables which came with every main course and the chef's Scottish specialities such as smoked haddock soufflé. In a rare aberrational moment, Provan also invented a camemhert icecream which proved not to be

a great culinary success. The restaurant's main dining area was a long corridor-like room that gave the not unwelcome feeling of dining in a both animation and intimacy. It quickly drew a regular clientele from among the bright young people of the time and nearly always hoasted a sprinkling of newsworthy celebrities with the chef himself invariably in vigilant attendance, supervising every last garnish on every

last dish. The Beatles were among the restaurant's early customers and so were David Bailey, Twiggy, Donovan, Zandra Rhodes and Ossie Clarke. A frequent diner was the cookery writer Elizabeth David, of whom Provan confessed to be in awe although she quickly became both friend and mentor. Perhaps Provan's worst moment came when he was unable to find a table for Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor.

Provan was horn in Paisley, Renfrewshire and educated at leaving school he completed an Lanarkshire 22 July 1997.

education law which sought to

hring private (mainly religious)

apprenticeship in electrical en-gineering with Macfarlane Brothers in Cathcart, but in 1962 he came to London having decided that he was far more suited to a career in the catering trade. For the next five years he trained at the Savoy Hotel learning every branch of hotel management, and it was here that he became inspired by the elaborate skills and rituals of a first-class restaurant

In the same year he also men the urbane Walter Baxter, which marked a turning point in his life and which eventually enabled him to set up on his own. Baxter was notable for combining two very different callings, being both a bestselling author and a highly suc-cessful restaurateur. His novel Look Down in Mercy (1951) was hailed, like Gore Vidal's The City and the Pillar (1948). as a pioneering study of gay relationships in a hostile and indifferent world. Baxter's restaurant The Chanterelle, in South Kensington, which specialised in French cuisine, was then one of the longest established and most influential restaurants in private ownership and was to retain its high reputation through another three decades. Provan hecame Baxter's

ong-time companion, entering on a partnership which was to endure for 30 years. Inevitably their lives and work be-



Provan: 'a bonnie big lad'

came intertwined, and when Baxter finally retired from running The Chanterelle in 1978 it was Provan who took over his friend's restaurant continuing to run it with his customary skill and attention to detail until his own retirement in 1993. At the same time he continued working at Provan's until it finally closed in 1980.

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F ...

1 Blee Team

Park

Fight.

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Unlike the more histrionic. publicity-seeking stars of the new generation of London chefs. Provan was essentially spruced-up railway carriage. a shy and private character one which agreeably combined with a great inner simplicity, a man who far preferred to work devotedly and quietly behind the scenes in his kitchen than to indulge in the attentionseeking fits of temperament which have become the stockin-trade of the personality cooks

of loday.

Described at school by a contemporary's mother as "a bonnie hig lad", Provan's sturdy, hig-boned Scottish frame concealed a naturally shy and self-effacing nature, but one of great integrity which offered to others both loyalty and thoughtfulness, making for a lifetime of enduring friendships. In his kitchen, where he could best express himself, be strove always to attain the very highest professional standards.

Derek Granger

Fergus Provan, chef and restau-Renfrewshire and educated at rateur: born Paisley, Renfrewshire Paisley Grammar Schonl. After 16 June 1941; died Lesmahagill,

Professor Robin Skelton

Two important strands contribute to the rich life of the poet Rohin Skelton. Six years ago he retired from the Department of but a contemporary one, of the English (and Department of Creative Writing, which he had founded) at the University of Victoria, British Columbia. He interpret how the experience is, was, as he said of himself, first n poet, then a teacher, yet the in this he is not so much the teacher is a subtle ingredient in modernist as having more in his work

In 1963 he published a volume modestly called *Poetry* in the "Teach Yourself" series. and re-creative self, with expeand in 1971 The Practice of Poetry appeared, both of which may indicate a two-fold approach to poetry. First, that lo Roosting", in theme and in do it you must know how to, but rhythm, but even the staunchest secondly, that endowed with the creative energy, one can bring oneself to do it. Within these limitations, creative energy is teachable, and on these principles all creative writing departments are predicated. what I can bring into my However, the stress on the height." Equally, what is compartments are predicated. "how-to" which leads on to the "able-to" itself indicates a component in the character of Skelton's own poetry.

In 1964 he edited (with an introduction) for Penguin Books the influential and important Poetry of the Thirties, and although Skelton claimed, rightly, to have responded in his poetry to many other poets, the attention to the Thirties poets, the work of David Gascoyne and Dylan Thomas notwithstanding, shows him to be not a modernist poet "tell" side of the dictum "show not tell". The vigour of his work fuses with the impulse to tell and rather than to show how it is, and common with younger poets

writing now. rience, is visible in "Eagle". Some affinity exists between this poem and Ted Hughes's "Hawk modernist would concede that Skelton's approach ("telling") bere widens the aperture of vision (in both meanings) to provide a view of man from the eagle's Olympian position, "1 kill pelling in the poem is not so much the eagle's capacity to view up a height as what it is he sees – man with a small but not reductive "m". Humans in their essence are composed of limitations. For although it is the small(er) creature the eagle

can and does lift up to their destruction. they watch the dwindling of their day, perceive

the shock that is the last discovery;

they learn abandonment of every and are self-rent before I rend . . .

gy that as the eagle sees these

So it is by compelling analosmall creatures available to his predatory nature, so the read-

... Image me as God. I am the final judgement and the

So where Hughes is still (comparatively) predalor-

ers, through the eagle's inter-

pretive vision, see bumanity

available to death's certainty.

And in this we abruptly realise

the traditional depths of Robin

Skelton's art and psyche:

'Eagle'

Vertigo is my territory. Man only another movement, another shift in arrangement of shadows beneath my shadow, angular, thick-boned, cumbersome, and bad meat.

I do not trouble him or the larger kind, having no love of eating on the ground; I kill what I can bring into my height,

they watch the dwindling of their day, perceive the small earth small, self-cancelling, and share the shock that is the last discovery; here they learn abandonment of every word

what they already have forgotten, locked on fear and splendour. Image me as God. I am the final judgement and the rock.

From New Oxford Book of Canadian Verse in English (Oxford University Press, 1982)

what I can raise up until, terror-stunned,

and are self-rent before I rend and eat

Jean Poperen

Jean Poperen was well known in French politics for some 50 years. From the 1970s he was one of the leaders of the Socialist Party. But it is significant that he only held ministerial office once, when he held the somewhat non-ministerial post of Minister in Charge of Relations with Parliament in the government of Michel Rocard from 1988 to 1992. Poperen was con-cerned with ideas and with the organisation of the party around those ideas.

Perhaps be preferred being in opposition. He was often accused of heing too caught up with detail. His colleague Lionel Jospin, the present Prime Minister, is supposed to have said to him, "You are difficult". To which the reply came, "I'm a socialist". The opponents of so-



cialist Party conferences. They were often preceded by newspaper articles, much rumour and gossip, and they were eagerly awaited. Then, his oppocialism used to make much of Poperen's interventions in So-said very little. His constant op-

position and criticism was partly a matter of temperament. But it was also a matter of intellectual probity. Poperen saw himself as being in the line of the 'République des professeurs".

Born in 1925 at Angers, Pop-eren's father was a school-teacher and his mother, who died when he was very young, a seamstress. He won a scholarship to the Lycee Louis le Grand in Paris and in 1943, when he was just 18, he joined the Resistance. In April 1944, before the Allied landings, he took part in a dangerous demonstration on the Boulevard Saint Michel, handing out Communist leaflets.

After the Liberation be became the leader of the Communist students. His academic career was very successful. In 1947 he came first in the prestigious examination of the agre-

gation in history and taught in the lycees at Amiens and at Janson-de-Sailly in Paris, before being appointed to the Sorbonne as a specialist in the French Revolution. He wrote an admiring biography of Robespierre, Oeuvres Choisies de Robespierre, published in three volumes

But the Communist Party thought that his future lay with them. In 1953 he was sent to the Kominform centre in Bucharest. He remained a member of the party at a time when many others were leaving. Although he criticised Soviet actions be did not wish to desert his fellow-members. The celebrated Khrushchev report in 1956, condemning Stalinism, did not persuade Poperen to abandon the cause; he wanted rather a Marxist analysis of Stalinism. But he could only

condemn the ineffectiveness of the party as the political situation of the Fourth Republic worsened in the course of 1958. He was under the surveillance of Philippe Robrieux, the future historian of the party and bi-ographer of Thorez. Poperen was expelled in 1959 after he had written, along with other Communist intellectuals, a con-demnation of the party that had accepted the coming to power of Charles de Gaulle and the defeat of the French

working class. He was one of the leaders of would-be independent socialist parties, particularly that directed by Michel Rocard. He was expelled from this in 1967, and after some ineffective wandering, became part of the re-formed Socialist Party that emerged from the congress at Epinay in 1971 with François

Mitterrand at its head. But Poperen was never an unconditional follower of Mitterrand. and there was always a group, "une tendance", which represented his views. At this date some 12 per cent of party representatives supported Poperen, an important section in a In 1973 he was elected as

deputy in the Rhône, a position he was in hold for the next 20 years. In 1977 he became Mayor of Meyzieu, also in the Rhône, two years after he had joined the Secretariat of the So-cialist Party. With Mitterrand being elected President of the Republic in 1981, Poperen hecame the number two of the party, with Lionel Jospin as the number one. But Poperen's promises of being a loyal supporter of the government suf-fered a setback when the

schools into a closer alignment with state schools was suddenly withdrawn. Mitterrand howed to the pressure of large crowds. but did not inform the minister of education, Alain Savary, of what he was doing. Poperen was indignant that socialist principles were being abandoned and was bewildered that his friend Savary leaned of the decision by listening to the radio. Poperen believed in Europe

but he was reluctant to accept the austerity and the abandonment of socialist measures. In 1986 be was removed as the party number two. As Minister in Charge of Re-

lations with Parliament, Poperen was relatively successful. But when Pierre Beregovoy became Prime Minister in 1992 be did not keep Poperen in his govern-

ment. Although he considered this to be an injustice, he also saw it as the opportunity for him to save the Socialists. He stood down as deputy in 1993 and devoted his time to organising the recovery of socialism. He published his own bulletin, be wrote books and he made many speeches, all towards the end of

recreating a new socialism.
What his attitude would have been in the elections of 1997 cannot be divined. Early in January he had a fall in his house from which he never recovered.

Douglas Johnson

Jean Maurice Poperen; politician: born Angers, Maine-et-Loire 9 January 1925; Minister in Charge of Relations with Parlia-ment 1988-92; married 1960 Nathalie Valcourt; died Paris 24

BIRTHS

HAICALIS: On 21 August 1997, to Andrew and Irene (née Rogerson), a son, Patrick Leon.

THORNTON: On 15 August, to Bente and James, a daughter, Elisabeth Marie, and sister to Katherine, in Oslo. Norway.

CARSTAIRS: Jean (née Dutton) on 19
August, at home, aged 73. Dearly
loved mother, much missed by family and friends. Donations if desired
to Imperial Cancer Fund. Cremation
at Mintlyn Crematorium, King's
Lynn, Norfolk, on Tuesday 2 Seplember at 4pm.

Births, Marriages & Deaths

FLOYD: On 25 August, in hospital, David, aged 83. A much-loved father, grandfather and great grandfather. Cremation service at Honor Oak Crecremanon service at Honor Calt Cre-matorium, Brockley Way, Forest Hill, London SE22, on Friday 29 August at (0am). No flowers, but donations to Parkinson's Disease Society, 22 Upper Woburn Place, London WCHH 0RA.

VELLACOTT: Philip, at home, 23 August, aged 90. Fineral at Aberystwyth Crematorium, Monday 1 September at 3pm. The at the Richmond Hotel, The Promenade, 4pm. Family flow-

Amountements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memo-rial services, Wedding anniversaries, in Memoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor; The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, Lon-don E14 5DL, telephoned to 0171-293 aon E14 3UL, temporare and machine 2911 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2012) or fixed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

The Duke of Argyll, Keeper of the Great Seal of Scotland, 60; Mr Michael Arthur, diplomat, 47; Sir Kenneth Berrill, economist, 77; The Right Rev John Bone, former Bishop of Reading, 67; Sir Cecil Clothier QC, former chalman, Police gen Cooper, concert plants, ronce Complaints Authority, 78; Miss Imo-gen Cooper, concert plantst, 48; Lord Cudlipp, former newspaper chairman, 84; Professor Wendy Davies, historian, 55; Mr Windsor Davies, pages 52; Miss Jones France Davies, actor, 67: Miss Janet Frame, novelist, 73; Mr Ben Gazzara, actor, 67; Sir Rupert Hart-Davis, author, ed-

itor and former publisher, 90; Sir Godfrey Hounsfield, inventor of the EMI-scanner, 78; Mr Emlyn Hugh-es, footballer and broadcaster, 50; General Sir William Jackson, former Governor, Gibrattar, 80; Professor Sir John Kinger, 190; Professor Sir John Kingman, Vice-Chancellor. Bristol University. 58; Dr Joseph Luns, former secretary-general of Nato, 86; Air Chief Marshal Sir Nigel Maynard, 76; Miss Elain Mellor, Jockey, 54; Mr Donald O'Connot. actor, and deacer. 72: Six

nor, actor and dancer, 72; Sir

Christopher Paine, radiologist, 62; Mr

Max Robertson, radio commentator and broadcaster, 32; Miss Emma Samma actress, 37; Sir Thomas

Anniversaries

Births: Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, poet, playwright and author, 1749; Thomas Seddon, pointer, 1821; Liam O'Flaberty, novelist, 1896; Charles Boyer, actor, 1897. Deaths: St Augustine of Hippo, 430; Karl

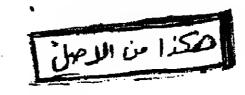
art MP, 47; Sir Peter Thornton, for-

Scrivenor, former cotonial adminis-trator, 89; Mr Julian Sheffield, chair-man, Portals Group, 59; Mr John Shirley-Quirk, bass baritone, 66; Mr David Soul, actor, 53; Mr Ian Stew-Theodor Körner, poet, playwright and patriot, 1813: James Henry Leigh Hunt, critic and poet, 1859. Ernest Orlando Lawrence, physicist, 1958; Prince William of Gloucester, billed in an air graph 1772. On this killed in an air crash 1972. On this mer senior civil servant, 80; Professor Roger Williams, hepatologist, 66. day: the Scots routed the Royalist army at the Battle of Newburn, 1640; 200,000 black Americans demonstrated in Washington for civil rights, 1963. Today is the Feast Day of Si Alexander of Constantinople, St Augustine of Hippo, St Edmund Arrowsmith, St Hermes of Rome, St Arrowsmun, St riermes of Rome, St John of Constantinople, St Julian of Britude. St Moses of Abyssinia and St Paul IV of Constantinople.

Christopher Harley The Thanksgiving Service for Christopher Harley will be held in Hereford Cathedral at 3pm on Friday 3 October.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS The Date of Yark, President, attends the Fi-nals of the Faled Junior Golf Series at the For-eat of Arden Golf Club, Warwickshire; and opens the new Grampian Police Office at Thy-drone, Aberdeen.

Changing of the Guard The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, tlam.



Islands of uncertainty in need of a new status

Pobin Cook does not much resemble Charles de Gaulle. But the Foreign Secretary has now set of this rag-hag of distant islands. Clare Short's deputy, George Foulkes, sets out for the West Indies at out to do something the French president accomplished a generation ago: dismantle an empire. Defeat in the battle for Algiers pushed the French to wran up their African presence the wrap up their African presence, then, with impeccable logic, to make the citizens of what remained of non-metropolitan France full citizens of France. The inhabitants of Guadeloupe and Martinique do not - like the inhabitants of Pitcairn or St Helena - have an indeterminate colonial relationship with the motherland; they belong to it, vote in its elections and possess its civic rights.

The volcanic eruptions on Montserrat are not to be compared with events in Algeria, of course, yet their outcome ought to be the same: a final reckoning for the fag-end of empire. There is no point pretending that the process is going to be quick and surgical - the specific circumstances, populations and cultures of the dependent territories forhid that. There is no point in concealing that there are political pitfalls in resolving the status of Gibraltar or the Falklands. But Labour, prodded by events in the Caribbean, ought to be able to do what the Tories could not, through political cowardice -which is to recognise that this country cannot accomplish modernisation, cannot look the 21st century full in the face, without regularising the position

the weekend in what looks unmistakably like an exercise of stable-door closing. now settling down and - paradoxically - the island may now become a legitimate object of attention for the Department for International Development, A merit of the past week's event has been to involve the Foreign Office and No 10

- where eventually hig decisions about the dependent territories will have to be

What these events have exposed is Whitehall's myopia about those faraway islands and their lack of a "parent" or sponsor at court. It was a gap, to be sure, all too evident before the Falklands episode in 1982, and shines through the paragraphs of the Franks report on the circumstances leading up to the Argentine invasion. It must not happen again, so one necessary product of Mr Cook's review has to be the identification of a fixed Whitehall address for these islands.

They are not, of course, "foreign", just as the Channel Islands are not "British". The Foreign Office will need to stay in close contact with the Home Office and other departments, for example consulting the latter's archives. They will show, among other things, just how variable has been the status of the United Kingdom's close-to islands: Jersey,



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Guernsey, Heligoland (British for a decade after the First World War), Rockall, St Kilda (once evacuated on official orders), and Man. Constitutional lawyers and Conservative MPs have been remarkably happy with the utterly anomalous position of Sark within these sceptr'd isles; why shouldn't a similar leeway be extended to the Turks and Caicos? We know from the public record how in the early Sixties ministers were prepared to give serious consideration to resolving problems with Malta by giving the Maltese a parliamentary vote and absorbing their islands into the United Kingdom - something

the then Maltese government was keen on. Is such a solution so outlandish, now,

for St Helena? The bureaucratic mind always seeks uniform solutions. Fascinating proposals have been in made, in the past, for a new British Atlantic Territory status to include all the islands in, or in waters contiguous to, that ocean. But these turn out to be too different, too defined by their different histories. Mr Cook will need to play the tailor and devise plans for each. Take the Falklands. Political realists will say that years still have to pass before the disposition of the archipelago can sensibly be discussed, let alone determined; political cynics will observe how political, let alone econ-omic, development south of the Rio Grande still seems to defy all the trajectories and certain upwards movements prepared and predicted by Rand Institute Hegelians. Yet neither point absolves the Foreign Secretary from seeking to regularise the islands' status, let alone the political identity of their inhabitants. Or Gibraltar, whose citizens possess

British passports and sport GB stickers on their cars. Determining the rock's future is a test, to be sure, as much of the political maturity of Spain's political class, media and people as of British willingness to grasp a nettle. Here is a test, too, of the capacity of the European Union to engage with the hard world of power plays and national symbolism as opposed to that of butter mountains and money hanks. Or Pitcairn - surely to be placed under the protection of Australia or New Zealand, like South Pacific territories before. Or Diego Garcia or Ascension (cede their sovereignties to

the United States?). As for Montserrat, the Caribbean has been hospitable enough to other tiny inhabited islands fashioning themselves, after colonialism, as statelets or de facto American dependencies. The process is rough and ready. It will, necessarily, involve halancing the inhabitants' declared wishes with the reality principle and British metropolitan interests. There is no single superior principle (such as what islanders want) that bas to prevail at all costs. A priority in British foreign policy has to be to accelerate the business of cutting the suit according to what cloth is available to a middle-ranking European power which lives by commerce and finance. Britain still spends far too much in maintaining a pretentious military and diplomatic profile. Resolving the future of the dependent territories is an essential part of this adjustment.

Be Fair Now, George

Nollowing the lead of the Princess of Wales in speaking out in the French press, George Harrison has laid into the Gallagher brothers in an interview in Le Figaro. To express a view about the musical quality of Oasis - and, given the Gallaghers' ostentatious homages to the Fah Four, Harrison has every right to disclaim his would-be followers - is one thing, but to accuse the newcomers of excessive ego is a hit rich from someone who played with John Lennon. Still, where would the rock industry be without manufactured controversy - even if "Be Here Now" hardly needs the boost in sales the former Beatle is bound to have generated.

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Mines: first clear up the deadly legacy

Sir: The controversy caused by Diana, Princess of Wales's latest comments on the landmine han and the Foreign Secretary's response has heightened public awareness but may well have diverted attention from the central humanitarian concern.

An immediate global ban on the production and use at least of antipersonnel mines is certainly desirable, but even more urgent and more easily politically attainable is a concerted drive to remove the mines already laid. Juless the international community, presumably under UN auspices, sets up and finances an operational command to coordinate, direct and finance demining on a global scale, the incidence of tragic human casualties will only mount and rehabilitation of large areas of countries such as Angola, Mozambique, Bosnia and Cambodia will remain impossible

A variety of demining technologies exists and in a number of countries the military have developed the relevant skills to bave personnel trained to meet their own specific needs, such as, by Britain, for the post-conflict clearance of the Falklands. South Africa, which announced a permanent ban in February, is already deploying its own human and technical resources for mine clearance in parts of southern Africa but needs the encouragement of international financial support to do this on a

A worthwhile first step would be for Britain, in conjunction with South Africa, 10 put the matter on the agenda of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Edinburgh in October. Professor WILLIAM F

Research Institute for the Study of Conflict and Terrorism London WI

Errant priests must face reality

Sir: The regime at Stroud for Catholic priests with personal problems described by an actively gay priest in the article "Behave or you'll be sent to Stroud" (27 August) seems very close to that freely chosen by many men and women who join a religious order

Or undertake a retreat. Invasion or lack of privacy. restrictions on freedom of movement and an atmosphere that may seem oppressive and claustrophobic are not necessarily bad things. Indeed, religious vows are voluntarily taken precisely with the intention of giving up some of one's freedoms for "the sake of the

Catholic priests or religious who refuse to accept restrictions on their freedoms are being unrealistic. There is a growing number of Catholies who believe that their priests should not be obliged to sacrifice their God-given right to intimacies of the type that marriage offers, but until the rules are changed it does not seem tureasonable for superiors to try to make their errant clergy face reality. It certainly seems the very

larger scale. The question remains where the practical initiative is to come from. GUTTERIDGE

Cars promise a nightmare future

SIMON BRYDEN-BROOK

Church on the Move

London SW7

European Network Secretary

Sir: Mark McArthur-Christie is mistaken to claim that a 50 per cent growth in car numbers is impossible because 80 per cent of those eligible to drive already possess driving licences (Letters, 22 August). Such a simplistic argument fails to recognise the large number of licence holders who, like myself, do not own a car. It also ignores the fact that people are now tending to possess their cars well beyond retirement age.

Comparison with other countries shows the potential for further dramatic growth in car ownership. The UK has only 350 cards per 1,000 population, compared with almost 600 in the United States, over 500 in Italy, and nearly 500 in

The claim that teleworking can significantly reduce road traffic volumes is unproven - his prediction of 3 million teleworkers by 2000 seems a little optimistic. There are concerns that working from home could increase demand for living outside cities in locations where there is often little alternative to relying on the private

The view that measures must be taken to discourage car use and minimum that should be demanded promote alternatives, such as

YOU ALREADY HAVE FLED of the small number of priests with a paedophile problem. Catholics walking, cycling and public transport, is shared across the should be grateful to the Servants of the Paraclete for providing this political spectrum. The Government's Transport White ministry in their name.

Paper consultation document recognises that "we cannot carry on as at present", and the former transport minister, Steven Norris, said last week, "People think they have a civil right to drive where they want; that is a civil right which has expired."

Without government action, the freedom to drive will simply be restricted by worsening congestion, with disastrous implications for the environment and the economy. This vision of the future does not bear contemplation. Councillor DAVID BEGG Convener of Transportation

The City of Edinburgh Council Sir: A compelling case for lower speed limits has been set out by Dr Mayer Hillman and Stephen Plowden in Speed Control and Transport Policy (Policy Studies Institute, 1996).

Raising the costs of car ownership and use will simply discriminate against the less welloff and will have little impact on the wealthy and business users, who will find the road space available to them increases as the poor are priced off the road. Those who can continue to afford to drive as and when they want to will continue to drive at wasteful and dangerous speeds in overweight and overpowered cars. Speed control is absolutely equitable and brings with it many environmental

benefits including fuel economy, reduced emissions and noise pollution and the saving of life and limb. Speed control over private cars also gives public forms of

transport a vital advantage. Sweden and Norway already have lower limits which are strictly enforced RONALD SHARP Green Speed Abingdon, Oxfordshire

A way out of the Cyprus impasse

Sir: The recent UN-sponsored talks in New York and Switzerland between the leaders of the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities in Cyprus have broken down. They hardly got started, because of a fundamental and persistent disagreement over the issue of sovereignty in the new bicommunal, bi-zonal federal state that is the object of the

negotiations.
The Greek Cypriots want the Turkish Cypriots to recognise that the federation will have one undivided sovereignty over one people and one territory. The new federal state is to them a modification of the bi-communal state established in 1960, the Republic of Cyprus, a state from which the Turkish Cypriots were excluded in 1964-65 unless they agreed to changes which would have turned them into a minority and which offended against the Constitution, which was

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e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give n postal address. Letters may be

edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

"guaranteed" (ineffectively) by Britain, Greece and Turkey. International recognition of the purely Greek Cypriot

administration as the government of Cyprus has been, and still is, deeply resented by the Turkish Cypriots and Turkey. Consequently, the Turkish

Cypriots, not trusting the Greek Cypriots, insist upon being treated as absolute equals in negotiations for a federation. In their view, in the final analysis, sovereignty rests in the two states which decide to create the federation. In other words they support the view that sovereignty emanates equally from the two communities". The UN Secretary General tried this formulation in New York, but, it appears, in response to Greek Cypriot protests, has now abandoned it. The Turkish Cypriot response is to demand recognition of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus as a prelude to

negotiations – a demand the UN will not accept. The concept of sovereignty is bedevilling the issue. Both sides should be persuaded to drop it. In a federation sovereignty is, in fact, divided since some powers are accorded to the federal arm of government and some to the governments of the constituent states. Since the structure is functional, sovereignty over territory is irrelevant; some (the federal) functions are carried out throughout the territory, but many functions are just state-wide. Also there is no need to stress one citizenship: citizens relate to both

levels of authority. Still less is there any need to mention the Cypriot people, or nation. Federations are not necessarily nation states -

usually not, in fact. The UN is still trying to reconcile theoretically irreconcilable positions. As in 1992, it has proved to be futile.
Professor CLEMENT DODD Hemingford Grey, Cambridgeshire

Asylum injustice

Sir: Michael Bartlet (letter, 27 August) is quite right about the detention of asylum-seekers. Detention by executive action without public hearing, without cause shown and without hearing both sides, infringes the very principle of the rule of law. Liberal Democrats are

committed to having all such detentions reviewed by a judge to discover whether they are, in fact, undertaken with good cause. This would not merely uphold law and liberty, it would even save millinns of pounds of public money. Earl RUSSELL Liberal Democrat Social Security

Spokesman House of Lords London SW7

Exam question

Sir: You report (25 August) that Trinity College, Cambridge has seen an increase in the number of first-class degrees, from 26 per cent to 34.1 per cent. May I ask on behalf of my GCSE students whether this represents a decline in the standard of the examinations set?

Dr WAPENNY Whitley Bay, North Yorkshire

Miserable myth of happy families

Sir: I was struck although not shocked by the photographs of a "family at war" (25 August). These photographs are simply a graphic representation of the emotional chaos which happens in many families.

Hostility, fear, dislike and manipulation - with occasional warmth - are what many people experience in the bosom of their families. Often, however, it is not expressed physically but rather through intense and unrelenting psychological pressure. Far less is it admitted. L and several of my valued friends, have "outed" the terrible truth that we do not come from families whose members are

supportive and happy. It is arguable that the rhetoric of the supportive family unit has distorted the thinking behind many social programmes and a great deal of social research. It has also contributed in large part to the sense of isolation that those of us who are not part of a mutually supportive "hlood-is-thicker-than-

water social group feel.

That is until you realise that many, many others are in the same position, and admitting it is a great relief. What warmth I feel towards Jessica Mitford: In response to Nancy Mitford's view that "Sisters stand between one and life's cruel circumstances", she responded that surely sisters were life's cruel circumstances.
Dr MARGARET MITCHELL

Department of Psychology Glasgow Caledonian University

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Issues of write and wrong

Sir: Your report on the wayward grammar of school inspectors (19 August) faults them for subjectverb agreement, citing the solecism "attainment and progress is good". But there is nothing wrong with putting a singular verb after plural subjects, if those subjects can be taken as a single idea - you would not say, for instance, "Tarring and feathering are too good a

punishment for him." As for the fuss about the apostrophe, why dont we just get rid of it? Like the French circumflex, it is merely decorative; after all, we manage perfectly well

without it in speech. And when are you guys going to give up your struggle against the "split infinitive"? There is, strictly speaking, no infinitive in English (merely a construct of "to" plus verb) and therefore nuthing to be split. But I must say its fun to watch y all pretzeling your prose to come up with such gems as "a detailed discussion of how safely to explore their sexuality PETER BRODIE Palo Alto

Blair's boar Sir: I read with interest the press reports of the Prime Minister's buliday eating. Local wild boar in a white wine sauce, home-made pasta with a wild hare sauce and rabbit in

a wine sauce were enjoyed. I thought Mr Blair was against sporting pursuits and not a fan of the countryside rally. What don't l understand? Will these culinary delights be available only to the overseas traveller in years to come? PAUL M COOPER Pickering

North Yorkshire

Intensive farming has made food in the US cheap and plentiful. But, says Mary Dejevsky, Americans are beginning to realise that their diet may also be bland and dangerous



Toss another T-bone on the barbecue: Americans have taken for granted that everyone can get affordable groceries Photograph: Golf Picture

America's beef about food safety

naive, attitude to the food they ate. If the government said it was safe, then it was. That confidence was grounded, first, in the touching belief that the government had the best interests of Americans at heart, and, second, in the plethora of rules. regulations and lahelling requirements that govern food production and sales in the US.

It was further reinforced by the near-certainty that the food in the supermarket, with few and clearly displayed exceptions, was all-American, produced in the US by Americans, for Americans. Thanks to their innate optimism and their faith in the to an Arkansas-based firm benefits of scientific advance, Americans also had few qualms wholesale and retail customers about intensive methods in agriculture, or the swift application of technical advances.

The interests of farmers in economics of method and scale, the interests of the food industry in efficiency and profit. and the interests of consumers in cheap and plentiful food, all seemed to come together in a symphony of affordable abund-

here was a time, not ance that is still the envy of so long ago, when world. Whether you want a restaurant meal of steak and salad a T-bone for the home barbecue or a hamburger and fries from the local takeaway, the national consensus is that h should be accessible to all and mostly, it is,

This admirable picture, however, has another side which is reflected in the shortcomings that have come to light during the investigation into the recent outbreak of E coli food poisoning in Colorado. The United States is a huge

market, and vast food processing conglomerates have grown up to supply it. Dubious practices at one plant - in this case a meat plant in the cattle across America. The hamburgers produced by Hudson Foods made their way into 28 states, two of the country's biggest supermarket chains - Wal-Mart and Safeway - and most of the Burger King restaurants in the Midwest (which were suddenly unable to supply any burgers at all when the suspect meat bad

invite different interpretations and corner-cutting which may negate the hyper-hygiene dictated by law, however dutifully observed. It is no good having antomatic toilet-flushing and requiring staff to wear caps and gloves and cover all hair and beards (as at Hudson), if even a small portion of one batch of what turns out to be contaminated meat is held over and added to an unspecified part of the next day's produc-tion. At Hudson, this practice made it impossible to trace where the bacteria might be

found, which is why the plant was summarily closed. Public insouciance about the application of technology has led to the acceptance (or ignorance) of developments that particular ailments or insects, may be insufficiently tested or but to make it sweeter, rounder, additives in beef cattle, for example, is now widespread and there is no requirement on the farmer, abattoir, processor or shop to label the meat accordingly. The beef farmers who use the hormones say that they enable the cows to reach slaughter weight more rapidly. so cutting costs; that the additive is a naturally occurring

The reams of regulation hormone (and thus harmless); and that no "residue" remains in the beast at slaughter. Extensive scientific testing, they say, also shows that the procedure is harmless. The World Trade Organisation now appears to accept these arguments and last week decreed that the EU's ban on beef hred with bormone additives is unwarranted.

> Exactly what proportion of fruit and vegetables on sale in US supermarkets bas been genetically modified is not recorded - a supermarket chain that tried to find out received replies from only 20 per cent of suppliers. The modifications are designed not just to make the product require less water, or resist attractive colour. There was never any public debate about there is no special labelling; it simply happened.

To a European living in the United States, one of the results is a plentiful supply of relatively inexpensive food, which none the less often lacks quality and taste. The water content of even fresh food seems very high compared to that of food bought from European supermarkets, and as for the taste - well, bland would be the kindest qualifier.

The size of the US food industry, moreover, makes it one of the biggest interest groups in the country, both as a whole and by sector. Challenging farming or producer practices brings down the wrath of some very powerful lohhies on the hapless questioner. It is

"disparage" food quality; legis-lation was introduced after one of the periodic (and often exaggerated) cancer scares implicated Alar, a substance used to make apples look shinier - and caused the apple market to crash. The same law is currently being used in Texas against the television celebrity Oprah Winfrey, and a scientist who appeared on her programme to question whether the US was really free of BSE (mad cow disease) and caused losses to

Texas stock breeders. Nor is it true to say that quality and safety monitoring arrangements in the United States are as foolproof as is often believed. Yes, there are separate authorities overseeing agriculture (the Department imports, especially from Mex-of Agriculture) and food (the ico and other Central American British government says it will adopt. But the US structure is the pros and cons of this, such in fact more complicated, and as is starting up in Europe. the separation of producer and (some scientists believe it can consumer interests less clearincrease allergic reactions); cut. than appears. Meat. poultry and egg production are all overseen by the Agriculture Department; they are not the province of the FDA, while seafood and other food products are. The powers of the Agriculture Department, moreover, are limited. It cannot recall produce or close plants without the agreement of the

company concerned. The fact that all this is emerging into the public domain suggests that a new, more questioning mood is emerging in the United States where food safety is concerned. The administration's reaction to some critics it is a huge over-reaction - to the fewer than 20 reported cases of E coli poisoning in Colorado, and the record speed with which the even an offence in 13 states to food recall was announced.

indicate an awareness at the highest political level that public confidence in food, and its quality and safety, can no

longer be taken for granted. This is by no means the first food scare this year. An carlier outbreak of poisoning was traced to the cyclospora parasite in a basil sauce supplied by a gourmet delicatessen chain. Raspberries also contaminated by cyclospora caused 1,000 people to fall sick. Annually, food poisoning is thought to claim around 9,000 lives in the US, and reported cases are

In previous outhreaks, including the raspberries, there was an automatic – and ignoble – tendency to blame foreign Food and Drug Administra- countries. (The raspberries imports, which have doubled in quantity in five years, are a relative novelty, and attract sus-picion and prejudice. What the two latest outbreaks bad in common, however, was that despite extraordinary efforts in the basil case to prove the contrary - both outbreaks were

"home grown". The increase in food imports (facilitated by the three-yearold North American Free Trade Agreement) and the perception of an increase in food noisoning outbreaks have undoubtedly contributed to a sense that food is less safe than it was. But there were signs of a more questioning public attitude well before this summer. The evidence - in America's cities. if not yet in the heartland - is everywhere. The small healthfood shops that set up on the West Coast and in urban areas of the East during the Eighties supermarket chains that cater

no additives.

The Fresh Fields chain. which originated in 1991 in Maryland and merged with the Texas-based Whole Foods company in 1996, is just one of a flourishing genre that profits from the fears of middle-class Americans about the harm that poor quality and junk food may inflict on them and their children. This year, mainstream supermarkets such as Safeway and Giant have followed the trend. huying in, advertising and labelling not just organic, but also locally grown produce.

Over roughly the same five-year period, the number of farmers' markets held at least weekly in many US towns and cities has increased dramatically. The first farmers' market to be held in central Washing-ton DC - a city that often lags behind East Coast urban trends - was set up earlier this summer. It is held on Sunday mornings in a bank car park on the edge of Dupont Circle, a fashionable city district populated mainly by young professionals.

vis food is, as a rule, considerably more expensive than standard American supermarket fare. Those who can afford it, however, are now prepared to pay for what they perceive to he better quality. Consumers seem to be shifting away from the decade-old desire for slimness and fitness at all costs (the no-fat, nocholesterol preoccupations that still dominate mainstream supermarkets) towards a prefcrence for food that is itself pure and healthy.

This shift, if it continues, could have implications that go far beyond the supermarket have spawned several hig and extend into America's specifically to the demand for the most acrimonious disputes row by itself.

organically produced food, with in the Western world pit the US and the European Union ter of food: its quality, safety: and labelling. A few of the reg-ulatory problems were resolved earlier this summer. But there remains a seemingly unbridgeable gulf - caused as much by cultural attitudes as by scientific evidence - on the question of altered foods: beef produced with hormone additives and genetic modification of fruit and vegetables. The US Agri-culture Secretary, Dan Glickman, went so far as to say recently that this difference was shaping up to be the "battle royal of 21st-century world

agriculture".
The EU is demanding, at very least, that US produce which has been altered should be labelled as such. France, protect, and ultra-demanding and traditionally-minded consumers, is in the forefront of the objectors. The Americans says, this is discrimination, and accuse the Europeans of using specious scientific arguments to teep cheaper US produce out. The Europeans retort that the Americans use their labyrinthine regulations for the same purpose.

Until recently, the American public would bave sided unquestioningly with the US government in this argument. he revelations that have followed the recent E coli poisoning outbreak, bowever, and the growing movement in the United States for healthy, natural and, if necessary, more expensive food, suggest that American consumers are starting to raise questions similar to the ones that worry European consumers. If that is so, the gap between the US and the EU on international relations. Some of food exports may begin to nar-

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Those Greyhound conversations run on and on

he first thing I heard when I got back from North America earlier this month and pulled out of Heathrow in the cold dawn light was the sound of Kerry Shale on Radio 4 telling us yet again what Bill Bryson thought of Britain in Notes from a Small Island.

Now, I am usually happy to hear what Bill Bryson thinks of the place (especially when Kerry Shale reads it - if I were a rich man I would pay Kerry Shale to come round to my house and read books to me) but this time there was something that stuck in my craw. Bryson was telling us never to talk to people on trains. People on trains are boring, be said. They talk about trains. And engines. There was, for example, this man who had approached him on a British train while he was reading a Paul Theroux book and had proceeded to lambast Theroux's lack of interest in railway engines. "How can you travel from Lahore to Islamabad by train without mentioning the engine's number?!" the man had

cried. All people on trains are like this, said Bryson.

Avoid them

untrue that I stirred in my jet-lagged sleep and cried out in protest, which was just as well, as when I awoke I turned out to be driving home down the M4. But recently I have met the most interesting people imaginable on trains, all very forthcoming, often funny and invariably quirky, and I do not regret having talked to any of them. Not on American trains, of course. They hardly have any trains left in America. In America

you either fly at great expense and inconvenience, or you are forced to go by bus. My wife and I were recently forced to go by hus on the simple three-bour journey from Burlington, Vermont (a most underrated little town), to Montreal (which I suspect may be overrated, but we weren't there long) because there was no other way of making the journey. There was no air link. The Amtrak train link had been withdrawn. You can't hire a car in the USA and leave it in Canada. So it had to be the dear old

Greyhound bus. Buy a bottle of cheap wine for the journey,



Miles Kington

chuckled an American friend when he heard we were mixing with lowly American bus passengers. He would have been surprised to learn that the young guy I sat next to was a post-graduate plant geneticist going to a big conference in Montreal. He had come from Bloomington, Indiana, a long

way away.
"Bloomington?" I mused. Funny you should say

"That's where Hoagy Carmichael came from. that," he replied, "but in the building where I work there is actually a Hoagy

It was clear from the surprised way he said this that he hadn't the faintest idea who Hoagy was.
"You from England?" he

"You probably guessed it from my cute accent," I said. He laughed. "Well, we have two guys from Britain

working in our lab. One from London, one from Northern Ireland." "No political problems, I

hope? He said nothing. He

dearly wasn't aware why there should be, so I changed the subject. "Plant genetics, eh?" I said. "What's your

speciality?" "Sunflowers," he said. "In fact. I have to do a short paper on it at Montreal. I've been given 12 minutes. I've never given a talk at a conference before. I'm rather nervous."

"Practise on me," I invited him.
"Well." be said, "there are

sunflower growing wild in America, Two have quite distinct sets of DNA, but the genome of the third shows characteristics of both the

"Therefore it is a hybrid. But nobody has the faintest idea how long the

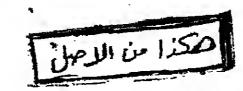
hybridisation process has taken - how long, that is, it took for the third to evolve from the other two. So we decided to use a combination of some computer simulation and some experiments in the field ..."

He explained at some length. We arrived at the American-Canadian border. We all filed out and had our luggage searched. We were scriously questioned. Two people were not allowed to get back on the coach. One of them had a DWI (Driving While Intoxicated) conviction on his papers, which may have had something to do with it. We

got back on ... This suggested that the hybridisation process did in fact take place faster than

anyone had realised. He finally came to a halt. That was twenty-five minutes in toto," I said, looking at my watch."
got to cut it by half."

Dear Bill Bryson, people on coaches talking about sunflowers can be just as bad as people on trains talking . about engines.



the commentators

No more talk: let's just put an end to poverty

Today 1 am back at work, on the same day Tony Blair returns to Downing Street. Like him, 1 have spent three weeks among olive groves, fig trees, piazzas and cathedrals where it is easy to forget that we holiday in Italian or Freoch equivalents of the Cotswolds, as far from the housing estates of Turin, Marseilles or Naples as Bourton-on-the-Water is from Sunderland. But that's what holidays are for - brief respites from reality.

I return to a desk piled high with reports about poverty, in one form or another. The hyperindustrious research industry has gone into overdrive this year, drowning the Government with every kind of statistic. Who are the poor? How many? What is it to be poor? Do they move in and out of poverty? How many are stuck for ever? What becomes of their children? How many commit crimes? What can be done? What works?

Yesterday, launching a campaign to strike at the roots of crime, the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (Nacro) published a report showing, yet again, how young criminals spring mainly from catastrophic families. Poor, hopeless, helpless, uncaring, despairing, mad or bad parents from hell breed infant demons. Surprised? John Humphrys on the Today programme started his interview almost with a yawn:
"But that's obvious, isn't it?" Of

course it is. Blindingly.

I wade through the other research that has been pouring out in my absence: "Income Mobility in Britain" (very little: in or out of work the poor stay in the lowest brackets). "Disadvantaged Children at Greater Risk of Adult Mental Health Problems" (well, fancy that) and many other less than earth-shattering revelations. Only a month ago Bristol University's Breadline Britain research showed how an extra 3.5 million people have become poor in the past

15 years, making a total of 11 million. In Tony Blair's absence, Peter Mandelson announced a new "Social Exclusion Unit" set up within Downing Street, (Social exclusion is Euro-speak: countries can't agree what poverty one who is, well, you know, sort of left out, without a job, or a bus fare, or a holiday - in other words, poor.) Mandelsoo spoke of Blair's "rock-hard determination to tackle social ills and the economic causes of social exclusion" and pledged that in 10 years "Britain will be a

more equal society".

Now that he is back, the Prime Minister will have to spell out what exactly his unit will do. To be sure, getting all departments to work together is crucial. But, even more important, oothing can be done without more money.

Maybe it's the effect of a long, luxurious holiday, but returning to all this poverty research. 1 am brought up short again by the way we all live. How do we manage to be so complacent, living cheek by jow! with mounting deprivation on our doorsteps? Will Blair's long holiday have the same effect on him? If I believed in a day of judgement (as he does). I wouldn't know what we should all say to justify ourselves. Excuses would stick in the throat. For we know exactly what and where the problems are. All this research tells us over and over again what can be done. The poor need not always be with us (or only a fraction of their present numbers).



Polly Toynbee

How do we manage to be so

complacent living cheek by jowl with mounting deprivation on our doorsteps?

> describes family schemes run by voluntary organisations that help mothers at the end of their tether, teaching them how to bring up their children. Research shows that many of the children are saved from going into care, but such schemes are few and far between.

we need to know.

told of the onward march of

social progress, reforms, factory

and education acts, a story of inevitable, unstoppable social improvement. The teaching of history from 1800 judged civili-

sation on progress for the poor-est. No more boys up chimneys,

no more women hanling coal trucks down mines. But then his-tory stopped. In the past 18 years it has even reversed. The DSS itself reported that the income of the bottom 10 per

cent decreased by 17 per cent between 1979 and 1992. When

I was young, in 1964, the first general election 1 can remem-

ber, I believed without a doubt in inevitable progress. Now,

instead, the gap has widened. Can Labour kick-start history

Let the Social Exclusion Unit

do no more research. Let them

think up no more clever ideas.

Let them not spend long, dreary

interdepartmental hours squab-

hling over structures centrally,

and structures locally. Let no new wheels be invented; stop the

consultation documents; silence the policy wonks. We know all

Take yesterday's Nacro report

as just one programme that

could he implemented tomor-

row - with money. Delinquency

springs mainly from disaster

families in the poorest neigh-hourhoods. Social services

usually know the children, but

nothing gets done. The report

For lack of that early support, 50,000 children are in care every year. They grow up to fill 25 per cent of prison cells. Why do we let them slip through our hands? There is virtually no treatment for these most damaged children, or any education, and they are cared for by the least qualified people. The Social Exclusion Unit could start with them.

There is a comfortable view that poverty is intractable: that the feckless and dysfunctional are beyond help. But among all this voluminous to the contrary.

Tony Blair goes back into Downing Street this morning with very little of the shine rubbed off. Now his rock-hard determination to make Britain more equal means his Social Exclusion Unit needs to start at once. Most of all, there needs to be money. How can that be found? In the end, only with public will. The people need to be persuaded that money well spent can make a real difference to the way we all live. At its lowest, projects to help the poor means fewer young criminals in 10 years' time. They mean ending the dead weight of the poor carried by all taxpayers. At its loftiest, Blair needs to keep hammering out the One Nation message of his powerful speech on that South-

wark housing estate.
Individually, if we felt genuinely guilty about the poor we could give our money away voluntarily. But in the end it is far better for a government to do the right thing, imposing good-ness and efficiency on us all fairly, with our consent. There is nothing wrong with tax and spend, hut now Labour has to start to persuade the people that more tax would be fair and spending thrifty, and that the result would be We were brought up on history books that a better-functioning society.

The war on drugs is a dialogue of the deaf

succession of backbench MPs, senior police and community figures have been calling for a rethink on the so-called "war on drugs". Last month the Government called for applications for the post of "Drugs Czar", an impressive-sounding post whose holder will be responsible for harmonising Britain's ragged drugs policy. And following the shooting to death of a five-year-old hoy in Bolton, the Prince's Trust and the Police Foundation have announced an inquiry lofty enough to earn the epithet of an unofficial Royal Commission into drugs.
This is bealthy. No matter

where you stand on the drugs debate, you are likely to settle upon a single point of agreement: Britain's drugs policy is in a mess. In the quarter century since the passing of the Misuse of Drugs Act, the world of substance use has become infinitely more complex. For prohibitiooists and reformers alike, the way the drugs scene is currently policed is seen as heing often counter-productive, inconsistent and largely unworkable. On that point at least we all agree. And it is a good place

But there is something amiss in the craze to re-assess drugs policy, and it goes to the core of the relationship between authority and young people. Merely changing pol-icy will be pointless if young people become impervious to our efforts - and that, unfortunately, is what seems to be happening. Recent surveys of drug use among children indicate a steady softeoing of the mythology and tahoos that were once the engine room of the war on drugs. Official messages about drug use are apparently becoming less effective. Warnings of hellfire

lating into constraint. Put simply, more young people are using drugs out of curiosity or for self-medication or recreation. And many of them see the practice as quite ordinary. Noel Gallagher tried to explain that attitude by likening drug use to drinking tea, but his point was lost in the subsequent wash of indignation.

Forget the Drugs Czar for a while: the proposed appoint-ment is merely a reorganising of existing oational drugs policy. What we need is an advocate to monitor police activi-ues in the youth culture someone who can perform the role of mediator, think-tank and sounding board - who can huild clearer lines of communication hetween young people and the police. Without this, any meaningful drugs policy is doomed. And yet, at care had been taken to ensure cert for local community



PHOTOGRAPH; DAVID ROSE

We need someone to monitor police activities in the youth culture ... without this, any meaningful drugs policy is doomed

the moment, those lines of communication are deteriorating fast.

Since 1990, police have used a variety of new public order laws to try to exterminate emerging youth environments. Raves, warehouse parties, house parties and dance parties - the hub of "hard core" youth culture - are routinely subject to extreme forms of police action that have on occasion ended with mass arrests and injuries. The result is that an entire generation of young people - generally lawahiding young people - are heing turned pointlessly

against authority. Take recent events in Bristol as an example. Last New Year's Eve, local dance organisers tried to stage a free party in an isolated and deserted warehouse. By all accounts, recent gig was a charity con-

the party was not near any residential properties. Despite this, the police turned up in force and closed the party. There were many injuries in

the mclec. A thousand youngsters turned in an instant against the police, and their antipathy will now be difficult, if not impossible, to reverse. Police tactics are sometimes more subtle. Last month 1 met a Brighton funk guitar hand by the name of Flannel, who told me that local police

have forced the cancellation of three of their concerts this year. The justification: iconography. East Sussex Police says the band's icon, an alien head in a triangle, would nttract "drug users, anarchists and an undesirable element". The band is a recipient of Arts Council funding. Their most

groups. Hardly a cocktail for revolution.

Such sledgehammer-andnut stories are replicated across the country. Perhaps the most celebrated case is the fate of a dauce party group called Exodus, hased outside Luton. A recent televisioo documentary outlined how Exodus were subjected to what could only he described as a campaign of harassment by Bedfordshire Police. As far back as 1994, 3,000 youngsters laid siege to the local police station io protest at what they described as police persecu- Economics.

tion. Michael O'Byrne, chief constable of Bedfordshire Police, is now at the inrefront

of the police campaign for the drugs pnlicy rethink.

Justice?, a national watchdog group which monitors police activity, says that relations between police and youth have deteriorated markedly since 1903 – even markedly since 1993 - even hefore the death of Leah Betts, daughter of a former policeman. "A patbology is setting in," says Peter Styles, a co-ordinator with the group for the past five years, "and it is not getting any better." The problem is not helped

by the inconsistency of police tactics. Surrey Police, for example, has a virtual "zero tolerance" approach to dance parties, while the force's counterpart in Norfolk is amhivalent. Internal reports from the two national units established to monitor police activities the Southern and Northern Central Intelligence Units - indicate widely differing views

among police representatives. A Drugs Czar might he ahle to iron out these anomalies, but the far greater need is for a change of attitude. While a national intelligeoce-gathering effort has been established, there is to be no comparable monitoring body for police-youth relations. The Association of Chief Police Officers says the matter falls within the conventional community relations mechanism.

Efforts have been made at a local level to improve relations, but according to Alan Lodge, a Nottingham youth worker who has documented police activity for 27 years, "every meeting designed to work out a solution has been used by police merely as an intelligence-gathering

This is not good enough. It is not as though we are talking about a few social deadbeats, the hard-core fringe-dwellers that were the targets of 1970s weekend, at least half a million young people - typically they are employed, law abiding and middle class - take ecstasy. It may be the higgest mass drugs experiment in history. The current haphazard approach to policing it has to change: otherwise, it is going to take more than a few token invitations to No 10 to mend the

The author is a Visiting Fellow in Law at the University of Essex and a Visiting Fellow at the London School of

Darling, your fusion was simply wonderful

have developed a theory about why actors stereotypically call none another darling. But you will have to be patient. I will come on to that in a minute, I hit upon it in Cambridge, at Girton College, to be precise. The clusive concept of community has been my goal in this month-long tour of the nation and the various summer schools that fill our universities during the vacation seemed the place to examine it in its most transient form.

The day I arrived, Girton was hostess to three separate groups: the actors of the Cambridge Shakespeare Festival who were ensconced for 11 weeks; the teachers of St Andrew's Language School, who were in residence for two months; and the members of the Essex Young People's Orchestra, who were there for just five days.

It was mid-morning break in the red-brick Victorian gothic college with its trim lawns and stately cedars, and the adolescents of Essex were sitting in the TV room watching Teletubbies. Communities do not come much more temporary than this. The orchestra exists for only 15 days each year. Its 98 members, aged between 14 and 18, do not rehearse on a weekly basis like a school orchestra. They meet only for three

five-day sessions during the holidays Easter, summer and Christmas when they put in at least eight solid hours' practice. "This way," said Richard Brittain who runs the enterprise, "they can make progress on

utances and textures." too. "Richard, stop chatting her up," one young fiddler was admonished as concentration wandered towards the end of the morning's three-hour tival actors had also created

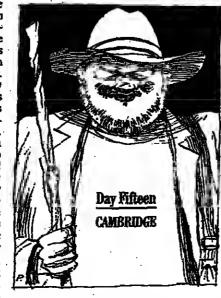
section practice for the first violins. Rituals of courtship are just the unofficial part of the community-building process. "We deliberately programme group activities in the free time swimming, a quiz night, a barn dance," said Mr Brittain. "And they are all responsible for setting up the performance area and clearing it afterwards." Thus, they hope, the balance between self-discipline and youthful rebellion will be arrived at.

Similar processes were at work among the other groups visiting the college. Common purpose was not deemed a sufficient cement on the two-week courses at the language school down the corridor. "When they arrive we have a whole programme of ice-breakers - name games and non-language games designed to huild trust," said Helen Holwil, the young course director. Morning classes are followed by afternoon games and day trips designed to bridge cultural gaps among pupils of different nationali-

ties about what is acceptable in class.
"You learn there is some truth in national stereotypes: ask the group an open question and an Italian will begin and talk for hours. But the Japanese will not, even if they know the answer, because part of their culture is not appearing to know more than your neighbour. Ask the class to go into pairs and talk about music and an Arah may come back and say he's not being paired with a woman; the Japanese will come back and ask what kind of music." The process is artificial, but it is an effective accel-Progress is made on other fronts erator. By the end of two weeks some will even ask to come back next year with the same group."

The Cambridge Shakespeare Fes-

A JOURNEY AROUND THE WHOLE ISLAND OF GREAT BRITAIN



WITH PAUL VALLELY techniques for fusion. A company of 50 actors had gathered for eight shows over nine weeks. "Although they are all professionals, they are all expected to muck in," said Dr David Crilly, the director of the festival, which is now in its 10th year. "We all build the sets, put up the lighting tow-ers, lay the cables."

They are also expected to take part in a rigorous social life. Punting, rounders, puh pool, bar foothall tournaments etc are all compulsory. "There's 10 in each company so everyone has to join in to make the five-a-sides work," said the effusive Crilly. "Performance may be the common denominator but much more is needed if everyone is to fuse instantly into a team."

And then came the clue to the darling syndrome. The week after the festival finishes I feel bereft," said Crilly, who then reverts to his joh as a university music lecturer. "These people have become my best friends and yet I may never meet them again." For professional actors such hothouse intensity is a part of every-day life. They build a tremendous sense of emotional familiarity with their fellow thesps. Then, years later, they meet and having forgotten each other's names, they summon an appellation which is, at once, intimate and anonymous. Hence, darling.

How odd, I then thought, that these transient communities all seem to know that they need conscious strategies to develop their common identity. How odd, too, that those who lament the decline of a more permanent and deep-rooted sense of community in the nation have not come to the same realisation, but rather assume that it will be nurtured and fostered without thought or effort.

Communities are places of conflict as well as companionship. "If this was a football team you'd never get selected," boomed the Essex conductor, Antoine Mitchell, as the French horn fluffed for the fifth time in the full orchestral runthrough of Liszt's Les Préludes. The back-row trombone looked up from reading FHM to gaze across the orchestra at his guilty colleague.

"Why are you talking?" barked the conductor. The horn mutured. "Oh.

so that isn't talking, when your mouth moves up and down and noise comes out. Get out."

Later in the day, I spotted the French born in a "Why-should-younot-be-sent-home?" conference with the orchestral authorities. He thought of a good reason, and was not. Mechanisms of resolution are integral to community tno. Late that night there was more

jostling and jockeying in the bar where The Tempest was playing Romeo and Juliet in a knock-out tournament. The actors were on the pool table again, grumbled the teachers. The Essex youth were engaged in some private internal discord, to judge by the raised voices. And it would he the same in the weeks to come when the British Antarctic Survey, the World Cooservation Monitoring Centre, or the British Organ Donors Society filled the college for conferences that would be so similar in their dynamics for all the difference of their subject matter.

"No one has brought the glasses back," grumbled Tom, the ancient barman, as he pulled down the shutters at 2am, "But, then, no one ever does."



the child's community, we can provide access to sale water health care, education, agricultural training and a means of Barning their corn living.

in return for your support, you'll receive a photo and messages from the child you sponsor. And you'll always know exactly how your money is helping through regular project

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DUSINESS & CITY FINANCIAL JOURNAL OF THE YEAR

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

WH Smith chief rules out early break-up plans

City Correspondent

W H Smith's chairman, Jeremy Hardie, ruled out a break-up of the struggling retail group yesterday, saying the appointment of a new chief executive remained the priority. Speaking as W H Smith announced a rebound in full-year underlying profits to £124m, Mr Hardie said the company would stick to the strategy developed by Bill Cockburn, whose shock decision to quit as chief executive in June plunged the group into fresh

"We have no plans for a break-up," he said. "A year ago we had a strategic review and disposed of some assets such as Do It All and husiness supplies. The strategy we developed then is being implemented now. What you don't do is thrash about changing things.

could not dismiss a break-up entirely as the incoming chief executive may view the situation differently. However, he said none of the candidates interviewed for the post had expressed a different view as to the company's best method of rebuilding shareholder value.

Mr Hardie, who has been spending all his time at the company even though he is supposed to be part-time chairman. disappointed the City by giving precious little fresh information about the chief executive search. "It is only two months since Bill Cockburn left and if you are going to do a professional job it takes longer than that. You don't find a chief executive by looking at the small ads overnight." He said the interviews had been completed hut did not rule out additional



by looking at the small ads'

At present the leading external candidate is Stuart Rose, the former Burton director. Mr Hardie admitted that he The three internal candidates are Alan Giles, John Hancock, and Richard Handover. Keith Hamill, the group's

finance director who was considered a front-runner prior to his decision to pull out at the weekend, said he was happy to work under someone else and had no plans to quit. "I'm quite happy here. I'm not roving about talking to head-

He denied he had canvassed support for a break-up but admitted that he had been "quite loud" about the company being under-valued when the shares fell to 350p.

Some analysts say the group could be worth more than its current market value of just over £1hn if parts of the group such as the Waterstones books division and Virgin Our Price,

Mr Cockburn, who joins BT

as head of its UK operations in October, will not return to Smith's after taking August as holiday. However, he tele-phoned the company yesterday saying he would waive his September salary, worth

WH Smith's pre-tax profits of £124m for the year to 31 May followed the previous year's £194m loss, which was struck after heavy exceptional

However, there were fresh problems in the main WH Smith retail business, where the group was forced to make a £6m provision for £20m of excess stock. The company said the unsold books, music and videos were a result of overbuying and a failure to mark poor sellers down soon

Mr Hardie said he was confident that the business could be turned around, "There is a hig market for a mainstream store providing music, books and so on, regardless of the mroads the specialist retailers and supermarkets are making."

There was also a £73m pen-

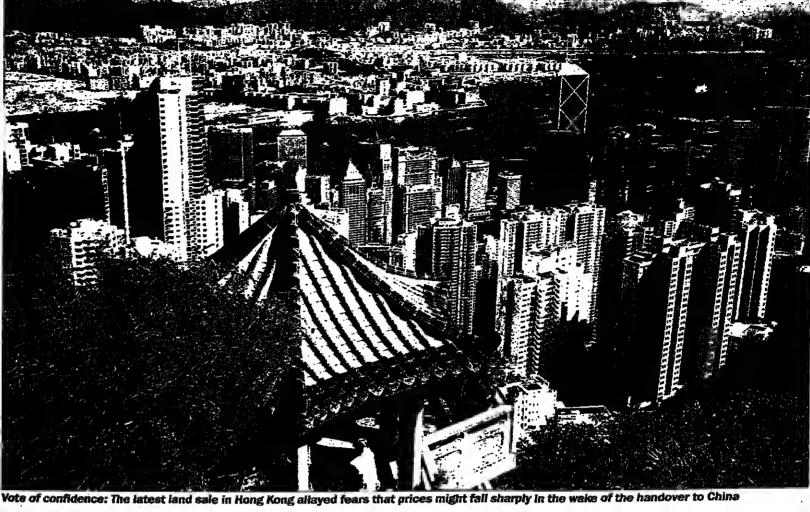
sion write-off caused by the recent changes to Advance Corporation Tax in the Budget, Like-for-like sales at the core husiness rose by just 1.5 per cent last year and by 2 per

cent in current trading. In the rest of the husiness Waterstones remained the star performer, increasing profits from £15m to £20m. But profits at Virgin Our Price fell from £18m to £14m due to a weak roster of music releases. Group sales were up 4 per cent at £2.75bn and the

dividend was maintained at

15.65p. The shares closed 9p

nigher at 376.5p.



Stephen Vines Hong Kong

The Hong Kong stock market breathed a sigh of collective relief yesterday when the first government land auction since the return to Chinese rule produced bids well to the high end of expectations.

Investors had been anticipating the outcome as a signal of developers' confidence in property, which in turn under-pins the stock market as a whole. Most attention was focused on a 10,570 square metre residential development site in the up-market Repulse Bay district which was sold for HK\$5.5bn (£441m). This works out at about £1,290 per square

The lowest estimate for the sale was HK\$4.1bn, while the highest was around HK\$6bn. As the overheated luxury

Buoyant land prices take pressure off Hang Seng

end of the residential property market has seen prices fall by as much as 30 per cent in recent months, yesterday's auction de-livered a clear signal that the big-league developers were not losing faith.

After a slow start to the hour-long bidding, two hig com-panies were left in the contest. Eventually Chinahem pulled through, outhidding Cheung Kong, the flagship of the group controlled by Li Ka-shing, who is Hong Kong's most astute property developer. Mr Li's son, Victor, who hid on behalf of the company, described the

result as "a vote of confidence" in the Hong Kong market.

Misgivings about the anc-non earlier in the day prompted investors to place a heavy vol-ume of sell orders, taking the market down 157 points at the morning close. However, as news of the auction seeped out, huyers rushed back, leaving the blue-chip Hang Seng In-dex to close at 15,534 points, a

fall of just 13 points on the day.

James Osborn, director of sales at ING Barings Securines, said the real importance of the auction was that il contained "no nasty shocks". He said the blue chips and headed straight

market would have been seri-ously shaken if hidding had heen below expectations but as the three sites on offer had been sold for good prices, the market could breathe easy.

Although there was some evidence of renewed interest in blue chips yesterday, the Hong Kong market has spent most of the past month standing on its head. Retail and mainland Chinese investors have pushed hig institutional investors to the side and poured unprecedented sums of money into the market. These punters have shunned for smaller companies, focusing on those with Chinese connec-

As a result, the constituent stocks of the Hang Seng Index have seen their share of trades fall from about 60 per cent of market volume 12 months ago to less than 20 per cent over the past month.

On Tuesday the trade in hlue chips slumped to a new low, representing less than 10 per cent of the market volume.

The effect of this new panern of trading is to make the notoriously volatile Hong Kong market even more volatile as small punters move rapidly in and out of stocks. Institutional huyers have been scared away by some of the crazy valuations now prevailing in the market and are sticking mainly with blue chips which are beginning to look increasingly cheap compared to the rest of the market.

United may axe 100 jobs in TV revamp

Cathy Newman

United News & Media's takeover of HTV has triggered a review of all Lord Hollick's broadcasting interests, which could lead to around 100 job losses.

United has kicked off a costcutting drive across the group's of the biggest players in ITV, television portfolio, which also along with Carlton Communiincludes the Anglia and Meridian franchises.

A spokesman for United Broadcasting confirmed the review, but said it was hard to see how many jobs would go at

However, a source at the company said the group was looking to make 100 people redundant to make savings of £3m.

City analysts said yesterday that United had found HTV was "a tight ship", and had decided to seek cost savings elsewhere in the group. One said: "Costs will be cut more from United's existing television operations than HTV."

Another analyst said that, far from slashing large numbers of jobs from HTV, United would actually use the organisation of HTV as a template for its other franchises. He said: "United is discovering that maybe it will HTV had in place in its existing television operations.

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<u>-373.04</u>

+36.33 +0.9

FTSE All-Share 2313.32

results next month, but it is not expected to have finalised the review by then. An announcement about the streamlining is likely to be made in the next two

In the wake of the £372m United paid a full price for acquisition of HTV in June, maintained its position as one cations and Granada Group. Whereas most recent bids valued television companies at around 30 times earnings, United's 420p-a-share agreed bid was equivalent to around 40 times earnings. Granada, which bought Yorkshire-Tyne Tees Television earlier in the summer, paid £11.75 a share, valuing the company at £711m, or just over

30 times earnings.
At the time of the deal United said it could save around £10m by amalgamating programme transmission for HTV Meridian and Anglia. However, job tosses were originally expected to be minimal, and Meridian and Anglia had

hoped to escape unscathed. Apart from a 29 per cent stake in the newly launched terrestrial television station, Channel 5, Lord Hollick's group also owns numerous press interests, including the Express newspapers and Miller Freeman, publisher of

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STOCK MARKETS

Gas suppliers refuse to back watchdog

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

The high-profile watchdog set up to outlaw dubious sales tactics in the emerging domestic gas and electricity markets was facing a boycott yesterday by some of the leading independent suppliers.

Two of the higgest gas companies competing with British Gas, Eastern Natural Gas and Calortex, have refused to join the Association of Energy Suppliers (AES) after reservations about its effectiveness. The association was launched this summer by the Gas Consumers Council (GCC) and Electricity Association after

complaints about door-to-door sales tactics in trials of household gas competition.

The dispute emerged as Clare Spottiswoode, the gas industry regulator, yesterday confirmed that the next phase of gas competition, extending choice to 2 million homes in Scotland and the North-east of England, would start on 1 November.

The decision is likely to prove controversial after demands from several independent gas companies that the trial be postponed to February. They claimed computer systems being huilt by TransCo, the pipeline network run by BG. would not be fully tested.

Ms Spottiswoode said Traus-Co's innovative approach to its data management systems had made the early launch date possible in time for the highest-

spending winter quarter. Sue Slipman, director of the GCC, yesterday joined the criticism of the November launch. She said: "We are worried that the early opening of the market will lead to higher levels of problems for consumers than would have been created by a later starting date. GCC does not

complaints."

have the resources to support

a high level of consumer

pressure for a fully fledged statutory sales code for the energy industry, despite Ms Spottiswoode's reluctance to incorporate a mandatory code into companies' operating

The AES had expected all gas and electricity suppliers to join its ranks, with sanctions including public dismissal from the body after three warnings.

Eastern, the gas arm of Energy Group, said its mem-bership was under review and it had no plans to join. A spokesman said: "We're confident the interests of our cus-The looming boycott of the tomers are already protected.

AES is expected to lead to We already have our own code We already have our own code

the AES's." The company was at the centre of complaints about its

sales tactics since the start of competition, resulting in the sacking of some sales representatives and a rebuke from Ofgas, the industry watchdog. Eastern said its own code had a 14-day cooling-off period for customers, double the sevenday period for the AES.

Calortex, which has campaigned for a statutory code of conduct, was also unhappy. "We haven't signed yet and we have concerns about the effectiveness of the sanctions," said a spokeswoman.



fire over November launch

Fidelity to close

'cumbersome'

Exports defy strong sterling

Diane Coyle

The strong pound is showing no signs of triggering the widely predicted plunge in exports, according to new figures for Britain's trade deficit.

The gap between exports and imports widened slightly to £950m in June from £733m in May, according to figures from the Office for National Statistics. But rising imports rather than falling overseas sales ex-

plained the deterioration. The trade shortfall with non-EU countries alone fell sharply from £713m in June to only £65m in July. This was thanks mainly to one-offs such as the shipment of a £400m drilling

Money Market Rates

Germany...

3,19

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Price (p) Change (s) Changelli Falls

5.97

Even excluding such items, the figures defied warnings of a nosedive in exports made by industrialists and many economists. The overall deficit shrank m underlying terms from £1.1bo in May to £974m in June.

"If you take out the erratics the trade balance is probably widening, but the cause is higher imports rather than lower ex-ports," said Dharshini David, an economist at HSBC Markets. It suggests that windfall spend-

ing is sucking in imports." Excluding both oil and erratic items, the underlying volume of imports from the rest of the world rose by 3.8 per cent in the three months to June, their

7.12 8.03

Price (s) Charge (s) % Charge

4.8

INTEREST RATES

platform from Tyneside across the North Sea to Norway. Even excluding such items, growth in export volumes has remained robust, picking up from 2.7 per cent in May to 5 per cent in June. Growth in volumes shipped to non-EU markets was 4.4 per cent in the three months to July.

Many analysts continue to expect the impact of the strong pound will be reflected in the official figures before long.
"Business surveys have

shown a massive deterioration in export orders," said Michael Saunders of Salomon Brothers. The surveys typically predicted the path of actual exports by one or two quarters, he said. Some economists are becoming less convinced that the

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widely expected plunge will ma-terialise, however. Adam Cole at James Capel pointed out that normally the impact of sterling's appreciation on export volumes should have been at its height about now.

Exporters have been able to take the impact on their profit margins because they had sustained virtually all of the improvement in competitiveness brought about by the devaluation in 1992," he said. "The impact of the higher pound on export volumes and output could turn out to be very muted."

The pound reacted little to yesterday's figures. Its index against a range of currencies ended up 0.3 at 101.9. Comment, page 17

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£ (N York)‡ 0.6194 -0.06 0.6439

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Index Yr City Yr Ago Heat Figs

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CURRENCIES

Magellan fund Tom Stevenson Financial Editor Boston-based Fidelity is to close its huge Magellan investment fund to new investors from the

end of September in an effort to make it more manageable. Magellan, which is Fidelity's flagship mutual fund and the higgest of its kind in the world. is now worth almost \$63hn

The closure of the fund to new investors follows an improvement in the fund's fortunes after a period of underperformance. Fidelity said an expected inflow of cash following the improved investment performance had prompted the decision to close the fund.

Fidelity said existing investors would be allowed to continue topping up their holdings after 30 September but no new investors would be allowed in. Participants in most group re-tirement plans, where Magellan is an existing investment option, would also be able to continue investing.

Rohert Pozen, head of Fidelity's \$500bn mutual fund group, said of the decision: By reducing future access to the fund, its assets will grow at rea-sonable levels." He said the move would allow the fund's manager, Boh Stansky, "to continue to manage the fund in the most effective manner for its hareholders"

The move is unusual for a mutual fund manager, which usually likes to keep funds open to maximise their fee income. However, Fidelity has been under pressure to close the fund because, analysts claimed, its cumbersome size was damaging shareholders' returns.

Eric Kobren, editor of Fidelity Insight, an independent newsletter that tracks the investment group, said: "It's in the best interest of shareholders to close Magellan. The fund is just ton

Fidelity's Magellan is the biggest investment fund by far. Its closest rival, Vanguard Group's Index 500 Portfolio, has about \$45bn in assets. Fidelity has said in the past it would close Magellan if the company determined that such a move would be in the best interests of

shareholders. The closure of Magellan comes after record inflows of cash for the first time in 18: months during which poor per-formance has led to almost \$10bn being withdrawn. The inflow follows an improvement in performance since Mr Stansky took over control of the fund from Jeff Vinik in June 1996.

حكذا من الاحل

THE YEAR



'It is becoming increasingly clear just how big a mess he has left poor old Smith's in. It was obvious from the outset that his abrupt

departure after just 18 months at the helm would cause great disruption. But the

fall-out will probably be greater than was originally imagined'

Waiving his salary is the least Cockburn can do How considerate of Bill Cockburn to tele-phone WH Smith yesterday and tell his means ousting some of the incumbents. If it goes to one of the internal candidates, it is more than likely that one or two of those former employer he was prepared to waive his September salary of £35,000. What a fine

passed over will seek pastures new. and magnanimous gesture from a man who has comprehensively legged over the organisation for which he used to work. Not What all this adds up to is that a business that has already lost 10 directors since the group's calamitous profits warning two years ago, will lose yet more. Jeremy Hardie, WH feeling guilty by any chance is he?

He certainly ought to. For a start, Mr Smith's chairman, is going to start feeling like a recruitment consultant soon. Cockburn will not actually be doing any work for WH Smith in September. He has already

He certainly has his work cut out. As the latest results show, this grand old name of the high street still has a long way to go before it even enters the recovery phase, let alone starts to come out of it. Weak sales growth is an old problem, but £20m of unsold books, records and videos was a new one thrown in for good measure. Whoever gets Bill Cockhurn's joh will soon see why he left it in such a hurry.

Conflicting signals on interest rates

A re short-term interest rates high enough yet to bead off an inflationary boom? The Bank of England has indicated that there will be a pause for reflection before anything further is done. Its newly formed Monetary Policy Committee will not, however, have drawn much comfort from the latest raft of economic statistics. There were further If the job goes to an outsider, the new boss will want to bring in his own team, which in the trade figures yesterday. Combine that

imports is on a deteriorating trend.

The trade gap is widening not because the effects of the strong pound on exports, which remain largely at unchanged levels, but because of stronger imports, and particularly imports of highly priced consumer goodies like cars and electrical goods. Exporters seem to have resisted the temptation to sacrifice volume to sustain margins. The pound's appreciation has been taken on the chin, with most exporters prepared to accept that their dollar and German mark selling prices be left unchanged, despite the fact they now huy fewer pounds.

Sterling's ejection from the exchange rate mechanism gave competitiveness and mar-gins a big boost in 1992. Unusually, the effects of that devaluation have not been whittled away by higher wages and inflation. This means there has been plenty of scope for exporters to take the pain of the newlystrong pound on margins rather than mar-ket share. This in turn makes it hard to predict whether a slowdown in export growth will occur later this year. Business surveys point to a sharp drop in orders which would normally be followed by a downturn in actual shipments.

On the other hand, half of the pound's appreciation to its current level - which

with the record level of August car sales, reported on our front page, and there are clear signs the shortfall between exports and imports is on a deteriorating trend. The trade gap is widening not because the effects of the strong pound on exports, which remain largely at unchanged levels, but makes some of the gloomier economists. makes some of the gloomier economists, predicting a sharp downturn next year, look like real Eeyores. The Bank of England faces quite a conundrum.

Magellan's closure marks end of an era

the closure of Fidelity's Magellan fund to I new investors marks the end of an era on Wall Street. Thanks to the stock-picking genius of its manager throughout the 1980s, Peter Lynch, the words Fidelity, Magellan and mutual fund are synonymous, for many

US private investors. Fidelity accounts for 13 per cent of the hoge American mutual fund market and Magellan, its flagship, is a massive fund. It had \$63bn of assets under management at the last count, bigger than the annual GDP of Ireland. It has a 10 per cent stake in more than 300 companies in its home market and at least 5 per cent in almost 900 around the

That is a measure of the fund's success but it is also its higgest problem. Running Magsteal a march on its smaller, nimbler rivals has required it to take bigger and bigger gambles on which sectors or asset classes would outperform. In recent years these calls have tended to be wrong.

Jeff Vinik, Magellan's manager until last summer when he was replaced by Bob Stansky, was a subscriber to the Tony Dye view of the market. As a consequence he took a big position in bonds and cash and so missed out on the earlier stages of the so missed out on the earlier stages of the recent staggering rise in the Dow. He paid with his job, and Magellan with almost \$10bn of withdrawn funds.

Over the last year, Mr Stansky bas dumped the bonds, reduced the cash pile and bet heavily on the market continuing to rise. So far he has been proved right, the fund has started to outperform again and, as ever in this business, the punters are belatedly piling m

Closing the fund makes good sense then, if only because the whole thing was becoming progressively unmanageable. What the move tells us about the level of the US market is less clear cut. While size is probably more of a problem in a bear market than a bull one. Fidelity's concerns about the expected flood of private investors into its funds argues persuasively that sheer weight of money will keep shares rising. He may have closed his doors, but there is no sign of Mr Stansky turning bearish. Then again, there are few better signals of the top of the market than surging mutual fund sales.

Securicor's mobile phone boss quits

Business Correspondent

Securicor yesterday heralded a further shake-up of its troubled mobile phone business as it parted company with Ed Hough, chief executive of its communications division, by mutual agreement.

Mr Hough, 53, left his job with Securicor yesterday and did not have another post to go to. He is likely to receive a pay-off of around £280,000 from his two-year rolling contract. Last year he was paid £163,000 including bonuses, with a basic salary of £140,000.

left and will be enjoying a spot of garden-ing leave prior to throwing in his lot with BT.

Second, it is becoming increasingly clear just how hig a mess he has left poor old Smith's in. It was obvious from the outset

that his abrupt departure after just 18 months at the helm would cause great dis-

ruption in an already fragile business. But

the fall-out will probably be greater - cer-tainly at board level - than was originally

Take Keith Hammil, for instance. The for-

mer Forte finance director, who was one of

Mr Cockburn's first appointments, was an

early front runner for the top job but has now

ruled himself out saying it should go to a

retailer rather than a numbers man. He was

putting a brave face on it yesterday, saying he was happy to stay on. But it is more likely that he will he off within six months to the

next decent job offer that comes his way.

The exodus will probably not stop there.

Jeff Pack, Securicor's group treasurer, said: "He went home yesterday and is not coming back to work. His resignation was by mutual agreement. Ed's interest in the business was really more to do with the growth

Securicor said Chris Shirtcliffe, its finance director, would take direct control over Securicor Cellular Services, the mobile phone husiness in the UK which sells Cellnet airtime. Securicor owns 40 per cent of

controlled by British Telecom.

Roger Wiggs. Securicor's chief executive, said a further announcement would be made within days about restructuring measures and management changes. Securicor shares fell 11.5p to 264p on the news. Mr Hough's departure fol-

lows long-running troubles with the mobile business, which culminated in the spring with the announcement of an £18m exceptional restructuring charge. It covered write downs on the value of customer contracts in

Cellnet, with the remainder Securicor's accounts because people were leaving the Cellnet network at a much faster rate. The charges contributed to a slump in Securicor's profits in the six months to the end of March, which fell to £19.1m

> would be taken to weed out lowspending customers attracted on to the network by hig discounts. "The economies of service

from £47.6m.

provision have changed dramatically over the past two years. There's been such a degree of bad debt that it's become

necessary to be more careful than before."

Though Mr Hough was not in direct control of Ceilnet, the mobile operator has also faced a series of fiascos, including the revelation this month of a £40m charge after the company aban-Mr Pack said further action doned work on a new billing sys-ould be taken to weed out lowprovision to cover billing delays, taken last year, of which £10m was charged to Securicor's first-half profits. In March Howard Ford left Cellnet as managing di-

rector. Jim McCafferty, a telecommunications analyst from ABN Amro Hoare Govett, said Mr Hough's resignation suggested Securicor was determined to get to grips with the division. "They've realised these are lossmaking businesses, so reporting direct to the finance director should help their visibility."

Other communications operations in the US controlled by Mr Hough will be the responsi-bility of Mr Wiggs. Securicor said Boh Shiver, a non-executive director of Intek, its US radio division, would become a full-time

☐ Net

gross and net hourly wages in US dollars"

afford to pay more,

on the company's history of raising dividends by about 20 per cent, the move will cost shareholders 8 cents a share, or about \$194m each quarter on the 2.42 billion shares in issue. Philip Morris has increased its dividend 10 times in the past 10 years. It last failed to do so in 1993 after cutting the price of Marlboro cigarettes to halt the loss of market share to discount brands. The move is part of the efforts by the company's chairman, Geoffrey Bible, to convince Congress and the White House that the industry cannot

IN BRIEF

Philip Morris holds dividend to save cash Philip Morris has decided to leave its quarterly dividend unchanged

at 40 cents a share in a move designed to conserve cash for the tobacco industry's proposed \$368.5bn (£229bn) national settle-

ment of health-related lawsuits. The company, which makes Marl-boro cigarettes, is expected to pay about half the settlement. Based

Rolls-Royce gets \$75m order for engines

Rolls-Royce has received an order for five RB211-535 engines, worth \$75m (£47m), following Continental Airlines Holdings decision to convert five of the options for 16 additional Boeing 757 aircraft announced in April into firm orders. The five new aircraft will be delivered in June and December 1998, and January, February and March 1999, Rolls-Royce Canada has signed a multi-year agreement with Continental Airlines for the repair and overhaul of the RB211-535E4 engines which power the airline's 757 fleet.

Johnson Fry appoints finance director

Johnson Fry Holdings has appointed Cathy Toman finance director with effect from 18 September. Paul Gildersleeves, the present finance director, will remain on the board as an executive director until 9 October, after which he will leave the company to pursue other business interests.

Beales Hunter profits down 36 per cent

Profits at Beales Himter, the Loughborough-based engineers, fell 36 per cent to £2.11m in the year to the end of May, although turnover rose 11 per cent to £63.8m. The group operates three divisions clectrical, refrigeration and textiles. "Market conditions have made trading difficult," said chairman David Tittle. "The outlook is more encouraging following reorganisations this year."

Tinsley Robor buys pre-press company

Tinsley Robor, a leading supplier of packaging to the music and multimedia publishing industries, is buying Pinepoint, a pre-press company, for £2.7m cash, of which £1m is spread over the next three years based on meeting performance targets. Colin Baker, one of Pinepoint's two founders, will manage Pinepoint as a subsidiary of Tinsley Robor.

Proshare launches website for investors

Proshare, a supporter of wider share ownership, has launched a new website aimed at private investors. It offers more than 40 pages of free information to help investors understand key issues relating to share ownership. The site is at www.proshare.org.uk

Domnick Hunter warns of sterling knock

Domnick Hunter, the filtration products group, yesterday reported a 9.5 per cent increase in interim pre-tax profits to £4.6m, but warned that sterling would knock second-half results. Brian Thompson, chairman, said the company's hedging policy would limit the effects of the strong pound. Domnick said its industrial division showed outstanding performance, but the company was conducting a review of its process division after faltering progress due to "stronger sterling, changing market conditions and internal re-

Chance expected to stay on at Sky

The deputy managing director announced he was to step down at the same time as Sam Chisholm, chief executive and managing director, who resigned due to ill-health.

work as a consultant until next summer, but following a concerted campaign by Sky to make him change his mind and stay on, he is considering remaining for longer.

the top duo, combined with Sky's enforced withdrawal from British digital broadcasting, knocked more than £2bn off Sky's market value as the shares declined from a peak of over

600p to just above 400p. As a result, Sky had come

some institutional shareholders had accused Rupert Murdoch. who has a 40 per cent stake in Sky through News Corporation, of nepotism by promoting his daughter Elisabeth to gen-

eral manager, broadcasting. City analysts said yesterday that if Mr Chance decided to extend his contract with Sky, he would help to assuage investors' concerns about the strength of the management team. One analyst said: "It's a

demonstration of faith in the future of the company. There was always a fear that the two biggest people were getting out before the launch of digital." Mark Booth, head of JSkyB.

Mr Murdoch's Japanese satellite operation, has been ap-pointed to lead the company through the difficult birth of digital satellite television, which will see the launch of 200 channels

Another analyst said: "It would be encouraging to have as strong a management team

Wiggins to sue Brent Councii

Andrew Yates

Wiggins, the property invest-ment company, yesterday said it was suing Brent Council, claiming officials at the London borough had frustrated its attempt to build a £6.8m leisure complex at the site of an old swimming pool at Kingsbury, near Wembley.
Oliver Iny, chief executive of

Wiggins, said: "Brent granted us a lease for the site but didn't carry out their promises. We are putting in a huge claim for damages. We are claiming significantly more money than the £3m we have spent to far ou the site. Brent will hurt."

Wiggins also announced plans to create 6,000 jobs in Kent by developing a 400-acre site it has just acquired at Manston airport near Margate, the place where the bouncing bomb was developed by Barnes Wallace during the Second World War.

It plans to build up to 6 million square feet of factories and industrial premises around the airport. Cummins, the US diesel engine manufacturer, has already agreed to set up a factory on the land. The development will include two huge lakes and the group even plans to import 1,000 chestnut trees from Brus-

Mr Iny also plans to expand the airport. "We are looking to increase its passenger and cargo operations. We are in talks with a major tour operator to use the airport and hope to start international flights as soon as next year," he said.

sels to plant on the site.

Wiggins will soon unveil its ideas to revamp the strug ling Pleasure Island Complex in Liv-erpool it acquired when it bought rival Tomorrows Leisure last March. Mr Iny aims to "transform Liverpool" by build-ing a speciacular leisure complex. Mr liny has revived Wiggins'

fortunes since joining the company four years ago. The group has already built a 500-home village on the site of a former mental hospital in Lin-coln, which includes pubs and amenities. Now it is developing another former mental home in

Wiggins still hopes to build the complex at Kingsbury, which would include a multi-screen cinema and swimming pool, but has been forced to provide £3m m its accounts for costs incurred on the site, pending the outcome of the dispute with Brent Council. Even so it announced a 384 percent leap in profits to £19.9m for be year to March.

Brent Council was unavail-

London leads the world in costly hotels

John Willcock

British athletics may be going through a dodgy patch, but still have clear world records: London has the most expensive hotels on the planet, while the UK has the highest-priced rail

travel. These chastening facts come from the tenth edition of the Prices and Earnings Around the Globe survey from UBS. The Swiss bank started producing the survey in the 1970s, and it appears every three years.

According to its compiler, Daniel Kalt, head of UBS Economic Research in Zurich, many companies use the report to fix employee pay levels around the world.

Thankfully the UK doesn't break the bank in every department. London is the world's ninth-most expensive city in a top ten dominated by Scandinavian cities, although Tokyo leads the pack.

The survey finds that an overnight stay for two in the British capital will cost an average £248, well ahead of the global figure of \$168 (£104). Eating out on the other hand is good value compared with most

Asian cities and Moscow. For hard-pressed rail travellers in the UK, privatisation does not seem to have translated into more competitive prices quite yet, to put it mildly. The UK is the most expensive in the world with fare prices of £32 for a 120-mile second-class train ticket, some way ahead of the next most exper sive - Switzerland. The global

average is just £10.50. The survey will further fuel dinner-party gossip in London about house prices; London has the highest rents for unfurnished two-bedroom flats, along with Moscow and Jakarta. For three-bedroom flats London is on a par with cities in Asia, New York and Moscow. On the other hand, poor old Londoners earn less than their counterparts in 20 other cities

around the globe, including

Cost of goods, services and food basket of goods and services" in US dollars goods and services □Food items Manama (Banrain

Paris and Frankfurt. London wages are the same as those in Sydney and only just ahead of Dublin - this, despite the fact that Londoners put in some of the longest hours in western Europe. They make up for it a bit with their holidays, an average of 20.8 days, which is in the mid-

dle of global comparisons. Globally the top earners are to be found in Zurich (home of

UBS), Geneva, Copenhagen,

Tokyo and New York. The low-

est gross wages were paid in

Caracas.

places like Shanghai, Moscow, Budapest, Mexico City and

If you decide to leave the restaurants hehind and buy your own food, a basket of grub as defined by UBS would cost £226 in London, just below the European average of £244, cheaper than Zurich at £342 but ahead of Lisbon at £168. (At £226 this is obviously a Swiss bank's idea of a "food basket".) As for getting around, Londoners have the fifth-most ex-

pensive tube and bus fares - 13 times dearer than Shanghai but Londoners get a slightly better deal when it comes to taxis with black cabs only the 10thmost expensive in the world. UBS likes to jazz up its fig-

ures by working out how long it takes to earn enough money to buy a Big Mac anywhere in the world, to give an idea of comparative purchasing power. Fast-food fanatics in the US come off the best, taking just 12 minutes to earn enough for a

hurger, while their colleagues in Nairohi.

London bave to slog away for 20 minutes. That compares with three bours for a worker in

It looks as if Brits travelling to the Continent to buy their cars more cheaply are right to do so. Car prices are lowest in central and eastern Europe and in North America. Prices in the UK are the sixth-most dear. Russian motorists get the best deal on road tax at £9.30, while

BT tipped to take £310m Spanish stake

Chris Godsmark

British Telecom was yesterday tipped to expand its overseas ambitions further, with the prospect of a \$500m (£310m) deal within months to increase its interest in its Spanish partner, Telefonica.

Analysts said BT, to be renamed Concert when the merger with MCI is completed on I January, would soon be given the opportunity to take up Telefonica's lucrative internaable for comment last night. tional subsidiary. The company,

several Latin American phone companies in a market forecast to almost double in size to \$60bn by 2000. BT shares fell a further 9p

yesterday to 404.5p, as investors continued to digest the detail of its revised £11bn takeover hid for MCI, which knocked more than £3bn off the purchase price. BT's big UK shareholders were unhappy at the lack of any "escape" clause allowing the an option to buy 10 per cent of company to back cut of the new agreement, along with the and Pucrto Rico. James help redu \$750m which BT will have to Downey. from stockbrokers of debts.

BT and MCI announced their alliance with Telefonica in April, scoring a coup by prising the Spanish group out of the rival Unisource alliance controlled by AT&T of the US. The deal included BT taking a 2 per cent stake in Telefonica, which bought 1 per cent of BT

Tisa is the biggest phone operator in Latin America, with communications companies in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru

called Tisa, owns stakes in pay MCI if investors reject the ABN Amro Hoare Govett, valued Tisa at \$5.2bn. "If the deal goes ahead it would be good for BT, with a more direct input into Latin America." Speculation has mounted in Spain about a possible deal, after

the government agreed to sell its remaining 23.8 per cent stake in Tisa to Telefonica, giving the Madrid group full control. The shares are expected to be hand-ed over within weeks, allowing Telefonica to offer stakes in Tisa to outsiders, a move would help reduce Telefonica's \$13bn

Approaches to buy stakes'in Tisa are thought to have come from neighbouring Portugal Telecom and Citicorp, the US banking giant. Next month Telefonica will

confirm that John Reed, head of Citicorp, has joined Tisa's hoard as non-executive vicepresident, fuelling rumours of closer co-operation. If Telefonica does agree to

sell stakes in Tisa to outside bidders, it would trigger the 10 per cent option currently held by MCI, which will transfer to Concert after the merger.

David Chance, second in command at BSkyB, is likely to extend his consultancy contract with the satellite broadcaster be-yond next summer, according to enior sources at the company.

Mr Chance said be would

The impending departure of

Chance back. In particular, od for Sky.

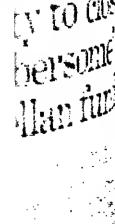
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next spring. under pressure to win Mr as possible in a formative peri-





Aluminium looks good for Billiton

The French economy hit the skids

almost as soon as the merger was con-

summated. Managing director Mike

Hennessy estimates the economic

downturn in France has knocked

£10m off profits with no sign of an up-

As France is the group's largest mar-

ket, Kalon has had to work hard to

achieve growth with most benefits com-

ing from cost entting and in-fill ac-

quisitions.
The hike in interim profits to June

to £24.4m was achieved in spite the strong pound. This knocked 10 per

cent off sales, hut shaved just £1.8m

But the limiting factor for Kalon is

that though house prices have risen

strongly in the South-east, the relatively

low level of housing transactions has

from profits.

kel for several years.

kept the lid on sales.

fter a shy start, shares in Billi-ton, the base metals company recently demerged from South Africa's Gencor, are gaining confidence. Floated at 220p at the end of July, Billiton's share price closed yesterday at 248p, pushed 6p higher by competent pro forma full-year figures and positive project form analysis. and positive noises from analysts. There are good reasons to keep faith.

In themselves, yesterday's sketchy, unaudited numbers included in Gencor's full year figures to June, were no more than reassuring. Unsurpris-ingly Billiton beat its own USS330m flotation forecasts, reporting pre-tax profits up 4 per cent to \$335m. The 43 per cent jump in aluminium profits, over 45 per cent of the total, to \$193m reflected full inclusion of associate Alusaf and the fall in ferro-alloy profits was flagged. Billiton's audited figures, reported on 2 September, will he more meaningful.

The argument too that Billiton's share price will be driven by its imminent inclusion in the FTSE and the need for tracker funds to buy is weak. True, capitalised at over £5bn and with a primary listing in London, Billiton is likely to join the FTSE club, even though 70 per cent of its profits are made in South Africa. UK tracker funds are still short of Billiton's shares, given the strong South African shareholding. But extractive industry stocks represent a small fraction of the total UK stock market - around 1.5 per cent - so fund managers need not rush to buy.

More compelling is to look at base metals prices, particularly when com-paring share ratings for Billiton, an aluminium player, with UK rival Rio Tinto, which makes around 40 per cent of its profits from copper. Copper and aluminium prices have been heading in the opposite directions. The price of cop-per has been steadily falling. With the operating costs of producing copper con-siderably less than the copper spot price. players have expanded capacity. The pressure on prices is likely to put a brake on Rio's carnings growth.

Aluminium is in better shape. A glut

of the metal in the early 1990s hit prices, leading to a cartel of the hig players. agreeing to cut capacity.

Enduring caution about oversupply. plus high operating costs relative to the metal's spot price, should keep aluminium prices firm. So will growing demand in US packaging and the automotive, aerospace and huilding industries - all heavy users of aluminium.

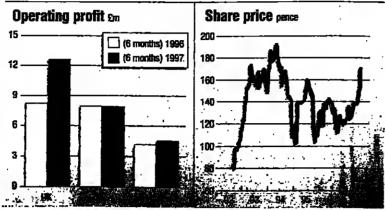
On UBS's numbers, Billiton is currently rated at just over 15 times forward earnings compared to 16.5 times for Rio and 14 times for the extractive sector. A discount to Rio is not mappropriate.

Billiton is a less diversified company and needs to prove itself outside South Africa. But Billiton's managefrom the float, has the firepower and cent holding.

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN company yesterday. Kalon is more likely to concentrate on Europe,

EDITED BY SAMEENA AHMAD

Ka	lon Gro	oup: At	a glan	ce	
M	erket value: £6	06m, share pri	ice 171p (+9p)	
Trading record	1994	1995	1996	(6 months) (6	96/97 (months)
Turnover (£m)	157.3	374,1	524.7	278.6	70 m
Pre-tax profits (£m)	19.6	(2.9)	19.3	19.6	24.4
Earnings per share (p)	10.1	(1.2)	3.1	3.7	
Dividends per share (p)	4.5	4.8 .	5.2	1.7	2.0



appetite to diversify. It has already outlined bold expansion plans in the nickel, coal and copper markets. Given that and prospects of faster earnings growth than Rio, Billiton's discount to Rio should narrow. Good value.

Kalon prepares to splash out

▼ alon, the Yorkshire-based paints group, has been an erratic per-former since its merger with Eu-ridep, the French paints subsidiary of Total, two years ago.

Though France remains grim, the UK is showing signs of life. UK sales were 5 per cent down due to the pre-Shares in the group have sunk from 160p to barely over 100p towards the end of 1995, before recovering strongly this year.

The price perked up another 9p to 171p yesterday on the back of a 24 per cent increase in first-half profits and news of greater cost cutting at the merged entity.

At the time of the deal Kalon said it anticipated £10m total cost savings. Yesterday it revised that to £23.5m savings by 2000. Most of the additional benefits will come from France as the

UK restructure is already completed. Kalon's performance has been creditable given the unfortunate timing of ment is aggressive and, with proceeds Euridep, a deal giving Total a 66 per

where it is already the second-largest paints group. Germany, which is the largest paint market in Europe, should be the next target.

On full-year forecasts of £45m, the shares trade on a forward rating of 22 falling to 18 times. High enough.

Time that Marley

homed in

with the housing market and the commercial property sector taking off it is logical to assume that the huilding material

sector should also be booming.

So why then has the materials sector fallen by more than 5 per cent in the last year at a time when the stock market has raced away?

The simple answer is that many of the building suppliers went overseas to try to escape problems at home when the housing market fell into recession in the early 1990s. That was fine while continental European markets were flourishing. But the strong pound and an alarming tail-off in important markets such as Germany has put a real dent in profits.

Marley, which sells everything from roof tiles to plastic drainage and plumbing systems, has been one of the worst casualties. Its shares, which slipped another 5.5p to 109.5p yester-day, have plunged from 140p last Oc-

However, the fall looks overdone. True, sterling's strength knocked £2.3m off profits in the six months to June and hit exports of flooring products to Ger-many. Even so, underlying profits rose 11 per cent to £28.8m, ignoring the one-off profit the company made from sell-ing its automotive husiness last year. Strong growth in housing starts in Britain, forecast to rise by around 10

per cent this year, is helping Marley's hlocks and roof tiles husiness and it should be able to make price rises of 10 per cent stick this year.

The rate of growth will no doubt slow, but the market looks set fair for

viously announced loss of some pri-vate-label contracts. the next few years. Syroco, the US plastic furniture Sales of decorative paints to DIY manufacturer bought in 1995, has sheds such as Sainsbury's Homebase been a serious disappointment due to an indifferent US retail market. and Do It All rose by 4 per cent. This is the first glimmer of hope in the mar-

The episode gives little confidence that Marley, which is on the hunt for more acquisitions, can spend its money

That said, the recent purchase of Flexco, a US flooring group, looks promising, and the worries are more In France margins are ahead but' trade volumes have been hadly hit by than reflected in Marley's low rating. Analysts are forecasting full-year proflower government spending its of £50m, putting the shares on a On the acquisition front, lalk of a prospective price/earnings ratio of 11. foray into the US was dismissed by the Good value.

Carl Lewis speeds off-track to back **AIM flotation**

Andrew Yates

Carl Lewis, one of the world's greatest athletes and winner of nine Olympic gold medals, yesterday took a break from the track to lannch the flotation of Trialtir, a company which has developed a revolutionary mountain hike used by the sports star.

Mr Lewis likes the new hike so much be indicated he was looking to huy shares in the company when it floats on the AIM market next month. He will receive a royalty on every bike, which retails for US\$500 (£310), in return for starring in a world-wide advertising cam-

Rohin Kesner, Trialtir's largest shareholder and its American chief executive, stands to make a paper profit of up to £4m on flotation. She will own 50 per cent of the company which is likely to be val-ued at around £8m. The directors will also be eligible for a share-option scheme but Trialtir has no plans to make Mr Lewis a director and he will not

receive any options. The mountain hike has a unique dual-action system which means that cyclists can pump their arms up and down as well as pedalling to set the wheels in motion. The cyclist can activate the new action, which drives both wheels, by flicking a switch on the handlebars, making it easier to go up hills or pedal over

Mr Lewis said at a press conference in London: "This is something that could change the way we think about health and fitness. I have had the hike for over a year and use it every day. I use it to take my dog out for a run and the bike goes everywhere; on hills, sand or just the street.

This is the first business venture Mr Lewis has become involved with since announcing his retirement from athletics. On Tuesday he crowned his glittering international career by an-choring a US 4x100m relay learn to victory in Berlin, his last European track appearance. Mr Lewis denied he would be career," he said.



post-retirement business venture Photograph; Adrian Dennis

tempted to return to the track against some of the world's current sprinting greats for one last big pay day. "Financially things are fine. The only reason I run is for passion and from my standpoint the passion is no longer there," he said.

He plans to continue his lucrative association with the sportswear giant Nike and is planning to get involved with other entertainment and husi-ness opportunities. "I am look-ing forward to my retirement [next month]. It is like graduating from high school and it is easier as I have had such a great

Trialtir raised £160,000 via a private placing earlier this year to develop the hike and plans to raise another £1m on flotation. If the London flotation is successful it is considering a secondary listing on the US Nasdaq market.

The group aims to market the product in the US and Europe on QVC, the home shopping channel and on "infomercials"

starring Mr Lewis. It aims to sell 200,000 bikes a year within two years. The company has published illustrative profit forceasts of £1.875m on sales of £6.5m for the year to September 1998.

Rushmere

'New MJN Best Buy **MMX Systems**'

MJN's 200M system based on Intel Pentium 200Mhz processor with MMX Technology, large 4.3Gb hard drive, 32Mb RAM, superb 15° screen and 33.6 voice modern is now available at a a truly sensational price of just £999 +VAT

The new 200M-2 systems featuring faster IBM MX processor with MMX Technology provides the highest specification with a massive 64Mb RAM, 56K voice modern, 24 max speed CD and latest SIS advanced graphics using 4Mh and 3D Wavetable stereo sound - all from an amazing £1099 +VAT



MJN 200M

- · Intel Pentium' 200Mhz processor with
- 32Mb EDO RAM
- 4.3Gb hard disk
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 15" SVGA 0.28tip screen
- 256K pipeline burst cache
- 64-bit graphics using 2Mb system RAM 16-bit stereo sound
- SoundForce 525 stereo mains powere MJN 7 bay midi tower system (not shown)
- Standard features isted below

MJN 200M-2

- 6x86MX PR200 processor with MMX technology manufactured by IBM 64Mb EDO RAM
- 4.3Gb hard disk
- 24 speed MAX CD-ROM drive 56K flex voice modern
- 15" SVGA 0.28dp screen 512K pipeline burst cache
- SIS 64-bit advanced graphics using 4MI
- 3D stereo sound with Wavetable software SoundForce 525 stereo mains powered
- MJN advanced ATX mid! tower sys

Windows 95 and Lotus SmartSuite 97

MJN 200M-2 XL

- 6x86MX PR200 processor with MMX technology manufactured by IBM 64Mb EDO RAM
- 4.3Gb hard dist 24 speed MAX CD-ROM drive
- 56K flex voice modern 17" SVGA 0.28dp screen 512K pipeline burst cache
- SIS 64-bit advenced graphics using 4Mb
- 3D stereo sound with Wavetable software Executive speaker system with large
- MJN advanced ATX midi tower system Windows 95 and Lotus SmartSuite 97

3.5" 1.44Mb floppy drive, PS/2 mouse, 105 keyboard, software MPEG, Year 2000 compliant BIOS, PS/2 mouse port, last setal port, parallel port, games port, Microsoft* Windows* 95 and Lotus SmartSuite 97.

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JS company mounts Kalamazoo rescue

Sameena Ahmad

Kalamazoo, the troubled UK computer services company which named itself after a onehorse town in Michigan, has once again turned to the US, this

time for a rescue refinancing. Reynolds & Reynolds, a US leader in car dealer software, is to huy a 26.5 per cent stake in Kalamazoo for £21.5m, with an initial cash injection of £17.68m. The cash deal at 130p a share is a staggering 72 per cent pre-

mium to the pre-bid price. Shares in Kalamazoo, which took the opportunity to warn of a substantial first-half loss due mainly to investment in its car dealer software Elite, closed

9.5p ahead at 85p.
The deal ends months of takeover speculation. Shares in the company, which tumbled carlier this year after a profits and put non-executives in, but

A good performance from in-

vestment banking helped Switzerland's largest hank,

Credit Suisse, to a 70 per cent

increase in first-half profits.

Credit Suisse First Boston con-

tributed almost two-thirds of the

group's interim profit of 1.4bn Swiss francs (£580m), despite a

sharp rise in staff costs.

Credit Suisse highlighted
CSFB's "outstanding" performance, which it said had bene-

fited from strong economic and

market conditions in most coun-tries, including the emerging markets. The bank said revenues

Beales Hunter (F)

Coatts Consult

Mariey (I)

Topps Tiles (F) Upland Internat WH Smith (F)

Calcubread Flobery (I)

Turnover £

63.79m (57.64

31.2m (25 7m

117m (115m)

24 4m (22m)

242.5m (276.6m

Tom Stevenson

Financial Editor

counting problems, have been supported by hid rumours, including a shunned approach from UK rival Lyux.

Bob Jordan, chairman, called the link-up with Ohio-based Reynolds, an "elegant solution to a difficult problem". Analysts said the deal looked remarkably free of strings, wiping out Kala-mazoo's sky-high debt. Though Reynolds, which is capitalised at \$1.6bn (£1bn), will appoint non-executive directors to Kala-mazoo's board and share products, there are few other binding conditions and Reynolds has agreed not to buy more shares

in Kalamazoo for two years. This is a true strategic alliance," said Mr Jordan. "They are putting £20m into our company at a hell of a premi-

Investment banking helps

Credit Suisse profits rise 70%

and profits were growing faster

CSFB contributed net profits

than most of its competitors."

of SFr885m, 62 per cent of the total and a 51 per cent increase

on the first half of 1996. The rise

came despite a 40 per cent rise

in expenses. John Leonard, an

analyst at Salomon Brothers, warned: "Although cost in-

creases were well covered by rev-

enue growth in the first half, an

awful lot of revenue growth

CSFB produced a return on

equity of 18.6 per cent, helow

the 25 per cent reported re-cently by SBC Warburg, the London-based investment bank owned by rivai Swiss Bank Cor-

Company Results

322,000 (281.00

24.357m (19 635m)

24.5m (364.9a

749,000 | 1.9m

6.22m (3.21m

just went straight into cost."

warning and revelations of ac-counting problems, have been they have no special privileges."
The deal will give Kalamazoo the cash it desperately needs to develop its car dealer software system. "We were near the limit of our hank borrowing facilities. Our gearing was uncomfortably high. We are having a torrid first half," said

Mr Jordan. He was equivocal on whether Reynolds was planning to launch a full bid after two years: We'll cross that bridge when we come to it."

Analysts said that Reynolds. which has a good spread of products in the US, was a sound partner and was probably interested in Kalamazoo for the platform it would provide into the European car dealer software market, where it has no footbold. Kalamazoo has a 45 per cent market share in the UK.

poration. Credit Suisse said its

CSFB's money markets and lending operations, was a more

respectable 26 per cent.

underlying return, stripping out

Elsewhere, CS Private Bank-

ment chipped in SFr98m. Cred-

it Suisse's domestic operations

struggled, in line with its com-

petitors, losing SFr150m. Credii Suisse is in the middle

of a £5.8bn takeover of Swiss in-

deal on 5 September.
The deal will produce one of

the world's leading bancassur-

10.7p (10.7p)

1.35p (1.25p)

3.168p (2.88p)

2.00 (1 7p)

2 to (2.1p)

2.0p (2 63p)

ance groups.

14.5p (22.0p

-0.2p (6 6p)

turns to business training **Clifford German**

Rushmere Wynne, the lossmaking former publisher, yesterday agreed to huy the residential training division of Coutts Consulting for £6.5m in cash in a deal which completes its conversion into a provider of husiness training services.

The division consists of two operating companies, Eynsham Hall near Witney in Oxfordshire, and Chewton Place, near Keynsham, not far from Bristol. The two centres are hired out to UK companies for staff training activities and made an operating profit of £1.06m on a turnover of £3.7m in 1996.

The deal is being financed by £4m loan, a bank overdraft facility of £500,000 and an open offer of 230 million shares at 1p each. Shareholders will be offered three new shares for each two shares held.

It is the third hig reorgani-sation this year for the struggling group which was launched on AIM two years ago when 27 per cent of the company was float-cd, raising £750,000. The cash was used to take over another small publisher, Rosters, and a jobhing printer, HS Printers.

The shares were suspended ing made SFr676m, up 30 per cent, while CS Asset Manageat 2p last November when the company warned it would make a loss of £100,000 in the 10 months to the end of September 1995 instead of the profit it forecast when it floated. It later reported losses of £329,000 for the period, and a further loss surance group Winterthur, with shareholders due to vote on the of £293,000 for the six months

to the end of March this year. In March Rushmere Wynne bought Fairplace Training, which operates training facilities at Birchin Court in London. from Fairplace Consulting for cash and 50 million shares, and Fairplace Training's chief exec-utive, Colyn Gardner, became executive chairman of Rush-

mere Wynne. Last month the original lossmaking publishing interests were sold to BT Batsford for £225,000 in cash and shares. The business will be renamed Birchin International. The group yesterday reported an unaudited loss of £370,000 for the nine months to the end of March.

Norwich Union on a high as takeover rumours swirl

Norwich Union was never expected to enjoy a long stock market life. The popular view when it floated in June was its days of independence were numbered. If rumours drifting around yesterday have any substance, the famous nld insurer will soon be bowing to tbat seemingly inevitable takeover bid.

In busy trading its shares rose 10p to 345.5p, highest yet. The story going the rounds was that Halifax, off 3.5p at 714p, was preparing a predatory Strike.

Nnrwich's perceived vulnerability was highlighted by Halifax's comments it was looking for acquisitions and insurance was one of the areas it fancied. The building society-turned-bank has a £3.5bn war chest. It should therefore have no difficulty absorbing Norwich with a £6.8bn capitalisation. The bid talk mingled with the usual pre-index meeting activity. Norwich is not yet a con-stituent inf any inf the FTSE share indices. It will go into Footsie next month together with Billiton, the mining group, and former building society, Woolwich.

Yet the various tracker funds, which attempt to mirror Footsie or nther indices, have had plenty of time to build stakes in Norwich, Billiton and Wnolwich. They could also have picked up shares in the fintations. Billiton, which produced

figures yesterday, is also at a peak; up 6p to 248p. Woolwich is well below its best level. The shares rose 2p to 293.5p against a 334p closing high. The Footsie steering com-mittee meets on 10 September. Any changes take effect on 22

September. On present form Tate &



MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

stock market reporter of the year

at £2.66bn.

Hanson's departure is due to its four-way demerger which ty products. The takeover of removed its energy and chem-Chubb Security boosted its size and, at 351.5p, it is valued ical operations as well as the

nther likely casualty, Imps, Even so, its loss of Footsie membership is another illus-The market experienced another uneventful session with tration of the demise of the Footsie, in moderate trading, conglomerate culture. managing a 20.6 points gain to 4,906.9. It will be the first time since Rank, the leisure group, headed the blue-chip leader the index was created in 1964 that Hanson has not been a

board with a 14.5p gain to 360p, nnly 24.5p from its year's low. The modest rally is probconstituent. A possible irony is that Williams, which lost its place early this year, could just creep ably due to the group's share back into Footsie. It was once buy-back programme, which a takeover marauder in the

Vague bid talk lifted Abbey
National 16.5p to 839p.
Whitbread fell 13.5p to 795p
as HSBC, which visited the
brewer on Thesday, appeared
to make cautious noises. Beer sales in June and July were said

not altogether surprising development as the European Cup inflated sales in 1996. HSBC was also said to be negative on Scottish & Newcastle, ahead of today's yearly meeting. NatWest Securities, however, expects an upbeat message from the nation's

to be lower than a year ago; a

biggest brewer. Scottish fell 8.5p tn 723.5p
Carlton Communications
softened 14.5p to 495p on the
Merrill Lynch forecast of a
£31m hit from the abolition of the Channel Four funding formula. Ionica, the radio-based

on the first day of dealings, but have been in decline since. They fell, reflecting disapney rell, renecting disappointing figures, a further 16.5p to 332.5p.

Cadbury Schweppes, ahead of an analyst visit to its US op-

eratinns, rose 4p in 587p. There are wornes Cadbury's American soft drink side is being squeezed unmercifully by the cola giants, Coca-Cola and Pepsi Cola. In some quarters the Cadbury visit is seen as expressing confidence about its transatlantic business. ABN Amro Hoare Govett put the

shares on its buy list.

Kalamazoo, the computer group, had a volatile session, ending 9.5p up at 85p. It has been in bid talks but opted for a deal with Reynolds & Reynolds, a US group. The Americans are pumping in £13.6m at 130p a share, taking their stake to 26.5 per cent. At

A big trade in Cliveden, the up-market hotel group, attracted attention. In a broker-to-broker deal 566,666 shares changed hands at 64p, just above the market price. There has been bid talk with Prince al-Waleed bin Talal, nephew of King Fahd of Sau-di Arabia, rumoured to be interested. Cliveden has

Taking Stock

warned planning delays will hit current year's results. The shares, spurred by bid rumours, reached 99.5p earlier this year.

Pan Andean Resources, still to recover from last year's misadventure, continnes to negotiate with oil majors to develop in Bolivia. The company is runoured to be thinking about leading a con-sortium for a "wildcat" drill in a promising area 10 miles well. Its shares, down 3.5p at





it can fit anywhere

Industrial decline is no horror story, just a sign of success

there is a spectre haunting Europe, or so you might have been led to helieve. It is the threat of a haemorrhage of industrial jobs from the rich countries to the cheap-labour Third World.

An unholy political alliance of leftwing bleeding hearts and right-wing nationalists is taking arms against the process of "globalisation", especially direct investment by multinationals in the newly industrialising countries, which they hlame for the loss of jobs in manufacturing at home. The demands vary from outright protectionism to the imposition of minimum labour standards on developing countries, but they rest on the same interpretation of the "economic horror" (to quote the title of a recent French bestseller) of the

global economy. Some voices of reason have long been pointing out the excesses and errors of this global nightmare school of economic analysis. (One of Paul Krugman's excellent demolition jobs, The Age of Diminished Expectations, has just beeo issued in paperback by MIT Press.) However, a recent paper published by the International Monetary Fund goes even further, suggesting that de-industrialisation in the rich economies is not only caused by trade with poorer countries, it is also a sign of a vigorous and dynamic economy. The more the share of manufacturing has shrunk, the more successful the economy.

The authors, Robert Rowthorn. a professor of economics at Camhridge University, and the IMF economist Ramana Ramaswamy, write: "De-iodustrialisation is not necessarily a symptom of the failure of a country's manufacturing sector, or for that matter of the economy as a whole. On the contrary, de-industrialisation is simply the natural outcome of the process of

successful economic development." Their argument is that economic development involves a process of shifting employment and output from one sector to another, from agriculture to manufacturing and then to services. The process is driven by productivity growth. Employment, in particular, shifts from

Foreign Exchange Rates



DianeCoyle

An unholy alliance of left-wing bleeding hearts and right-wing nationalists is

taking arms against 'globalisation', which they blame for the loss of jobs in manufacturing at home

high productivity to low productivity activities. De-industrialisatioo therefore reflects the success of manufacturing in boosting levels of

productivity and efficiency. The paper gives figures showing that the manufacturing share in

has been declining in the OECD countries since about 1970 - earlier in the US. For the "industrial" countries as a whole (or should that be "post-industrial"), the proportion of employees working in man-ufacturing has fallen from 28 per cent in 1970 to 18 per cent by 1994. By contrast, service sector employment has climbed from 42 per cent to 65 per cent. Although the shift from spending on manufactures to spending on services has been smaller, the greater produc-tivity gains in manufacturing have pushed down the share of em-

ployment in manufacturing.
There are differences between coootries that seem to be explained by trade patterns, but not trade with developing countries. Specifically, Japan has gained a higger chunk of the export market for manufactures, while the US has lost a hig chunk. This explains the faster-than-average pace of de-industrialisation in America and its slower pace in Japan.

A second difference is that the level of employment in US industry has not declined in absolute terms, whereas it has in Europe. In the latter case slow growth has linked de-industrialisation with unemployment and stagnant earnings.
But the anthors conclude: "Even if
these countries had grown faster
than they actually did during this
period, de-industrialisation would still have occurred, though with more favourable effects oo living

standards and employment." Breaking down the possible causes of de-industrialisation, they find that for the group of OECD countries as a whole, the 9.6 per total employment and value added cent drop in the share of manu-



Interest Rates

facturing employment can be at-tributed to: higher productivity growth in industry (minus 6.3 per cent); trade (0.2 per cent – small but positive); weak investment

(minus 1.8 per cent); and miscel-laneous (minus 1.7 per cent). The trade effect for the whole group combines a big negative for the US and a big positive for Japan. Low investment played a small part in manufacturing job losses everywhere apart from the US.

Their conclusions are that the decline of industry is a concern to the extent that it causes disruption during the adjustment, but no further. Future prosperity in the rich nations will depend on the growth of productivity in the dominant service sector.

Separate IMF papers in the same batch provide more ammunition against the ghoulish ten-dency. One confirms earlier research that it is hard to find any evidence that imports from developing countries have had a big impact on either wage levels or income inequality in the rich coun-tries. Increased trade accounts for 10-20 per cent of the changes in earnings during the past two decades, although the report warns that future growth in trade could make workers increasingly vulnerable and insecure.

Another finds that low foreign labour standards, like low wages, are the mirror of low levels of produc tivity on the part of Third World workers. They are not a form of unfair competition. "There is little basis for fearing a competitive 'race to the bottom'," it says, warning that the introduction of minimum labour standards in trade agreements would harm the very people - the exploited poor of the developing world - they are claimed to help.

"Deindustrialisation: causes and implications", by Robert Rowthorn and Ramana Ramaswamy; "The Effect of Globalization on Wages in the Ad-vanced Economies", by Matthew Slaughter and Phillip Swagel; "In-ternational Labour Standards and International Trade", by Stephen Golub. All IMF working papers, April 1997.

Pugwash might be worth a punt as he sets sail for US

Fancy taking a punt on Pugwash? Britt Alkroft, the AIM-listed company headed by Angus Wright, owns the world-wide rights to Captain Pugwash and has begun shooting 26 new episodes of the cartoon pirate

The programmes should be shown in a year's time, and while Britt Allcroft's share price has been a party-pooper over the past year they might perk up when the market hears about plans to

screen Pugwash in the US. An industry source said: "This could be higger than Thomas the Tank Engine. It knocks the spots off Sooty and Noddy in the popularity stakes."

Britt Allcroft also holds the licence to develop products based on another cartoon hero, Thomas the Tank Engine, including toys and T-shirts.

Watch out in your local shops for Pugwash T-shirts. Other piratical clothes are mooted. Such products will never compare how ever with "Thomas the Tank Engine Fromage Frais" as well as Thomas rice seasoning, popular

in Japan, apparently.

There has never been a better time to be a slimming train-

spotter, it appears. Thomas alone generated sales of £11.5m and profits of £2m for the year to June 1996, with this year's results due out on Monday. City sources expect the numbers comfortably to beat analysts' forecasts thanks to pre-Christmas sales of Thomas

James Sherwood, the larger than life millionaire industrialist who owns the Great North Eastern Railway, has given an interview to this month's issue of The Railway Magazine which makes sobering reading for anyone planning a train jonrney.

At ooe point the Americanborn tycooo was asked about the telephone inquiry bureaux (TEBs) the Government ordered the oew rail owners to set up after privatisation, to enable passengers oation-wide to find out train times, despite the fragmen-tation of the industry.

The TEBs were criticised in a recent report for failing to answer

Liffe Financial Futures

PEOPLE & BUSINESS



Pugwash: He could be bigger than Thomas the Tank Engine

up to half of customers' enquiries. Mr Sherwood was unimpressed

by the fuss. "As far as I'm concerned, every phone call which comes into a TEB is an opportunity to sell, so we are going to have a hlitz on our network and are going to say to everyone who calls in: 'Don't call

the TEB in future, call telesales." Great North Eastern's telesales departments are separate from the TEBs and, unlike the latter,

can actually flog tickets. The rail mogul continues: "After a while, we will be able to go to the regulator and say, Look, the number of calls we are getting to our TEBs is miniscule, so why not do away with them?' It will happeo eventually, anyway, for as the number of calls to the TEBs drops we will reduce the

staffing levels." Mr Sherwood concludes with a flourish: "I know the regulator and the franchise director might not like it, but I couldn't care less what they think! Train operators have to he motivated and this is ooe way of doing it."

Rank Holidays is planning a hig announcement for its Butlin's

Industrial Metals

holiday camp business next Monday, which is why perhaps it has recruited Ken Johnston as Butlin's sales and marketing director. Mr Johnston joins from Pepsi Cola Company, where he was director of brand marketing for Pepsi's investment into central

Enrope.

Prior to that he was the country manager for Pepsi's launch in Israel, so he has pleoty of international experience. Perhaps Butlin's is going to take on Euro Disney in France?

Back to reality. Mr Johnston, 37, got a BSc in civil engineering from the University of Lancaster after attending Exeter School, and he also has an MBA.

One of his first jobs was at
Wella, the health care company.

In 1988 he joined Pepsi Cola and speot the oext eight years working ahroad for the fizzy drinks company, including stints io Cyprus and Vicona.

Part of the reason for his joining Butlin's, I hear, is that he wanted to come home. Hi de Hi.

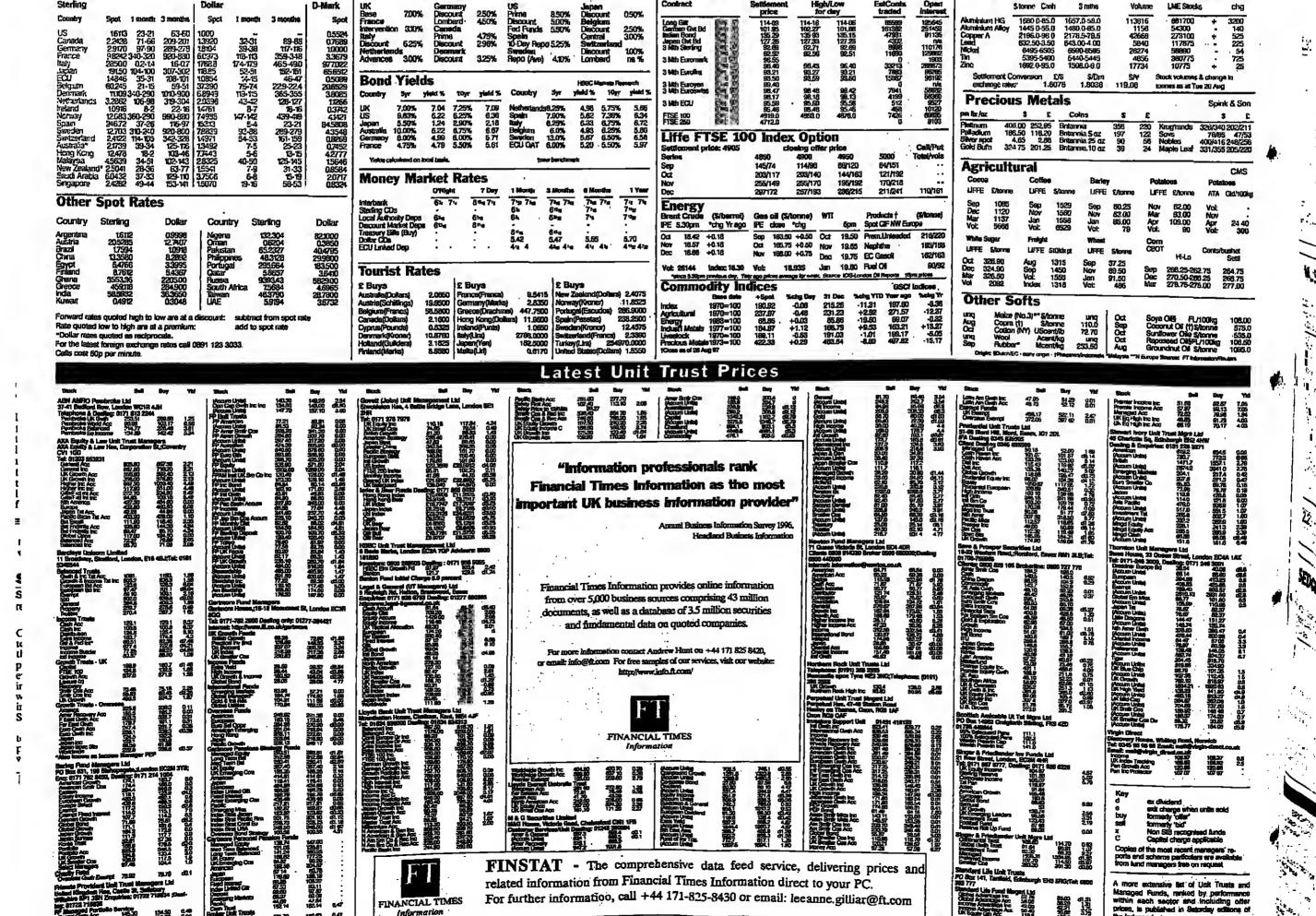
Hearing that Michael Hardern, the zany freelance hutler and huilding society carpetbagger-inchief, had been expelled by the Coventry Building Society before he could "make any trouble there". I phoned him up to hear his reaction.

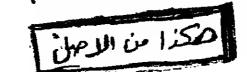
I got a recorded message, addressed, no doubt, to the many people interested in ohtaining his "Carpethagger's Guide" on how to pressurise building societies into cooverting to haok

Mr Hardern's message says: This is the close seasoo for building societies uotil Michaelmas - 29 September. If, however, you can't resist helping, please consult carpetbagger.com [on the Internet | or seod us a selfaddresséd envelope.

We will send you information wheo hostilities re-commence in

John Willcock





 $v_{1,2,3}$

Fallon ready to travel for title

RACING

GREG WOOD

When asked recently why his firm did not bet on the jockeys' championship, the PR man for one leading bookmaker replied that doing so invariably cost them a packet. Hard though it is to sympathise with a bookie, the wild shifts in betting on the 1997 Flat title in recent days imply that his reluctance was borne of commercial reality rather than cowardice.

The problem for a bookmaker in a topsy-turvy two-horse race like the one underway between Frankie Dettori and Kieren Fallon, who are levelon 125 winners after the latter double at Brighton

vesterday, is that hardly anyone ever bets at odds-on. Instead, punters weigh in at odds like the 11-4 available with the Tote about Fallon yesterday morning. and then sit back and watch as he shrinks to 7-4 in the course of an afternoon.

With Dettori idle for five days next week, it is more than likely that those who took a price yesterday will be able to back the Italian and guarantee themselves a profit within little more than 10 days. Those who do not cover their

bet can be sure that Fallon will spare no effort in the pursuit of his first title. "I can't afford to take time off like Frankie, I'm not as wealthy as him." Fallon said yesterday after winning a double at Brighton maiden and a handicap at

Brighton with a combined value of less than £7,500. "The way 1 look at it, whether it's Brighton or Bath, they are all winners and they all count, sell-

The depth of that commitment may be tested as soon as

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Newport Knight (Lingfield 4.30) NB: Keen Waters (Lingfield 5.00)

next Monday, when Hamilton stages the only Flat racing in Britain, but on the day when Dettori begins his suspension, it is a far bet that Fallon will make the trek to one of the more remote tracks in the country.

"It is too early to begin wor-rying about the championship," Fallon added. "There is still a lot of the season left, and look what happened to Frankie last year when an injury put him out for a long time. Wait until the last two weeks of the season, but it might be exciting." In truth, of course, it already is.

Pat Eddery's chance of de-fending the title has all but evap-orated, but he can at least look forward to the Ayr Gold Cup next month with some optimism after Plaisir D'Amour, a winner for the Irishman at York last week, was installed as 14-1 favourite for the event yester-

Owned by Michael Tabor



Fallon: drew level record sequence of winners for a jump jockey of 10 in a row. Since his win on Irie Moo at Market Rasen on 8 August, Fitzgerald had partnered eight consecutive winners - for seven different trainers - hut he could finish only ninth on General Glow in the opening race

Cup winner, Danetime, who was reported yesterday to have recovered from the slight setback which forced him to miss the Nunthorpe. "He seems perfect now," Callaghan said." There was disappointment and trained by Neville yesterday for Mick Fitzgerald at Worcester, It Callaghan, Plaisir D'Amour is in his attempt to equal the the afternoon. at Worcester, his only ride of

Brittle's pledge to investigate

Rugby Union CHRIS HEWETT

Cliff Brittle, arch hogeyman of England's professional clubs during the civil war that almost brought domestic rugby to its knees last season, yesterday donned the mantle of honest broker in an effort to avoid an outbreak of renewed hostilities.

The much-maligned char-man of the Rugby Football Union's management board promised to investigate allega-tions that his representatives had attempted to persuade leading players to ditch their club contracts in favour of legally binding agreements with the RFU.

Rob Andrew, the former Eng-land outside-half and current director of rugby at Newcastle, claimed last week that "underhand" approaches had been made, aimed at "wresting control away from the cinbs". Brittle reacted quickly, corres-ponding with the 24-strong membership of the Allied Dunbar Premiership to reassure them of his good faith. "I take the accusations extremely seriously," he said, before calling on Andrew to produce evidence in support of his comments.
This needs to be investigat-

ed," said Kim Deshayes, the chief executive of English Rugby Partnership, which administers the major club competitions. "If Rob Andrew is right in what he says, it would be an area for considerable concern."

The RFU are preparing to announce a new backer for the national knock-out cup, a competition currently unsponsored following Pilkington's withdrawal from the rugby market-place. Carlsberg-Tetley, the

brewing giants, are the current favourites, having offered in excess of £1.2m annually. Barclays Bank and another brewing company, Bass, are also among the bidders.

One man in need of a stiff drink yesterday was Greg Smith, who predictably resigned as Australia's national coach in the wake of the their 60-point reverse against South Africa in Pretoria last weekend. John O'Neill. managing director of the Australian Rugby Union, said: "The pressure of constant speculation has taken its toll on Greg's family life and his health. He's decided that this cannot continue and I fully support that decision."

Smith guided his team to a "Celtic Slam" in Scotland, Ire-land and Wales last autumn but failed to cut any ice in the more demanding Tri-Nations se-ries with New Zealand and the Springboks and the depressing events at Loftus Versfeld finally forced him to fall on his sword. Rod Macqueen, Canberra-based coach of the wildly successful ACT outfit, is an obvious candidate to take over. Other names in the hat include Alec Evans, a former assistant coach of the Wallabies who has just started a second stint at Cardiff, and John Connoily, Macqueen's Super 12 counterpart at Queensland.

England's annual Cook Cup match in Australia next July will be preceded by a demanding five-match trek around New Zealand. The itinerary includes two Tests against the All Blacks. in Dunedin on 20 June and in Auckland seven days later.

ENGLAND MINERARY: 13 June: New Zealand A. Hemitton; 26 June: New Zealand Acade-my, Inversory 1. 20 June: NEW ZEALAND, Duneón, 23 June: New Zealand Maori, Ro-tonia, 27 June: NEW ZEALAND, Auckland.

LINGFIELD

2.00 Generous Embrace 2.30 Ed's Folly 3.00 Dashing Chief (nb)

3.30 Muhlb

HYPERION 4.00 DASHING BLUE (nap) 4.30 Bold Buster 5.00 Sixties Melody

GOING: Turf - Gond; AB weather track - Standard.

STAILS: Turf - stands safe in straight, 1m 3f 100yds outside; AWT - inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: On turf, high numbers usually best up to and including 7f 140yds.

Left-hand, sharp turf course will 7f 140yds straight; AWT has Equitrack surface.

Course is SE of town on BOOCS. Ungledt station (served by London, Victoria) adjoints course. ADMISSION: Members \$13, Tottervalls \$9. CAR PARE: Club \$3; renarial of free.

LEADING TEAINERS: G L Moore — 00 winners from 380 numers gives a success ratio of 15.6%; M Johnston 50 from 200 (19.2%); R O'Sullivan 43 from 25 (14.6%).

ELEADING LOCKERS. L Wasner 18 winn from 100 titles since a success ratio of 25.9%. LEADING JOCKEYS: J Weaver 18 wins from 340 rides gives a success ratio of 22.9%; L Dettori 76 from 277 (27.4%); R Cochrane 48 from 274 (17.5%).

E DELIOTI 76 FORM 271 (27,470); is Cochrane 48 from 274 (17,570).

FAVOURITES: 434 wins in 1,370 races (31,7%).

BLENNERED FREST TIME: Petaling (210); Bogen (visored), Mol Canard (2,30); Jaccar (visored) (4,30); Rear Window (visored), Aegean (5,00).

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Sad Mad Bad (5,00) has been sent 280 miles by Mrs.

2.00 LABATT ICE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 270 of Panalty Value £2,277 P Dobbe (7) 8 Dane O'Nelli B __S Droute 11 ___D Sign 13 em (7) 12 V Martin Dwyer (3) 10

GEMEROUS EMBRACE got behind after being hompered at the start when making her de-but behind First Village at Beth 17 days ago but kept on in good style to finish thith of 17 -beesen less than note lengths. David Elsworth's Cadeaux Generaux filly is bound to progress bestern less than none lengths. David Eleventh's Cacleaux Generaux filty is bound to progress as a result of the experience, especially over this extra furing, and John Reid, who was one tolard at the Avon trech, stocks with her here, lost knowther Time has non creciping at one of his four races, most recently when beaten a length and a half by Daynabee in a similar event over the minimum one of Notungham, his gets the extra furing, Daynabee, who was completing a hot-track that day, didn't let the form down when titing the minor placing against Cool Searst in a Ripon nursery next time and the selection can provide most danger with amant claimer Carl Lowther taking oif 5th, Conseens ran third to Daynabee in a Lencester seller six weeks ago and, on a line through that witner, domes out just in hont of Just Another Time. This could prove inselecting that witner, domes out just in hont of Just Another Time. This could prove inselecting that witner, domes out just in hont of Just Another Time. This could prove inselecting that witner, domes out just in hont of Just Another Time. This could prove inselecting that witner, domes out just in most of Just Another Time. This could prove inselecting that witner, domes out just in most of Just Another Time. This could prove inselection at a Bigition next time. The this fellow that the only witner in the 15-strong field, made all in a four-runner Bigition auction event in May but that form amounts to little.

2.30 MURPHYS IRISH STOUT HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 7f (AW) Penalty Value £3,538

-34304 STAR TURN (8) fundam Recing) M Bell 3 9 0.

— 10 declared —
— 10 declared —
— 10 declared —
— 10 declared —
10 feed and —
10 feed

MUSSE PRINCE

HYPERION

2.20 Oriel Girl 2.50 Classic Ballet 3.20 War-

rior King 3.50 Inchalong 4.20 River Of Fortune

IRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for of; Fign trop 71 to 1 m 4.

Right-hand oral course with light turns.

Course to 5m E of Edinburgh on A1. Edinburgh station 5m. ADMISSION: Club 512 (pmiors 16:25 & students 55); Tuttersulls 55
(OAPs & unemployed 53). Under-16s free. CAE PAEE: Free.

LEADING TRANSERS: J Berry — 38 winners from 178 runners given a success ratio of 21.3%; M Johnston 19 from 123
(15.4%); Mrs M Reveley 14 from 87 (16.1%).

I LEADING JOCKETS: K Darley 41 wins from 193 rides gives a success ratio of 31.2%; 3 Weaver 29 from 135 (21.5%); K Fallon 19 from 121 (15.7%); J Fortune 18 from 150 (12%).

BLINERED FURST TIME: Shirleys Girl (visored), Seventh Heav-en (2-20); Daintree (visored) (3-20); Great Lyth Lass (visored), Ou The Mat (3-50). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Cross The Border (4-50)

won at Thirsk on Friday and Beverley on Saturday. LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Same Rivale (2.20) & Feel A Line

(3.20) sent 373 miles by 8 Mechan from Upper Lembourn, Berkshire.

2.20 SALAMANCA SELLING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,500 added 2YO 5F

FAVOURITES: 170 wins in 395 races (42.9%).
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Shirleys Girl (visored), Se

115241 ORSEL COR (B) (CO) P Biors 8 11.

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places). STALLS: Inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for 5f; High from 7f to 1m 4L.

4.50 Bashful Brave

FORM GUIDE

Weren Falton is back on WMATEVER'S RIGHT for the first time since the eight-year-old went in at Windsor seven weeks ago, deleating Delight Of Dawn a neck in a field of 17. That was off a handcap mark of 63 and Whatever's Right goes off a 97b tower mark in this all-weether heat. He is no stranger to success on this surface, having scored time times on it, including when opening his account in 1994, is weeting a newn better track record than my selection with eight wins here starting in 1992. He could do no better track hard have with selection with eight wins here starting in 1992. He could do no better track hard have with selection with eight wins here starting in 1992. He could do no better than finish hards to Whatever's Right at Windsor and meets, him on 21th worse terms, though he did got hame by a length and a half from Signs And Wonders over course and distance last time. Whatever's Right in the half has been a selection of these times. by a length and a half from Signa And Wonders over course and distance lost time. What-ever's Right might have more trouble, in disposing of Sharp long, a dual course winner, both at Sot furlangs but just as effective over seven. His last track victory was in fanuary and he gained a well deserved return to the virtuer's circle of Folkestone nine days ago, having run second five times in basween those wins. Big Ben, successful on both Equitrack and but here, ran third to Windy Treat at Newmarket on his most recent ourug and can again flure – along with Rawl and Ed's Folty.

3.00 BODDINGTONS MANCHESTER GOLD MARCH. S2,143 (CLASS D) (DIV I) £4,050 2YO 7f 140yds Penalty Value £3,143 BODDINGTONS MANCHESTER GOLD MAKEN STAKES CCLASS D) (DIV I) £A,OSO 2YO 7f 140yds Penair

Of ALLATON (S4) If Couseon Mrs P Sty 9 D

ASSINGE (15) Older I Semple 8 Meetan 9 O

DASHEDIX (15) Older 8 Sewel G Baking 9 O

DASHEDIX (15) Older 8 Sewel G Baking 9 O

DASHEDIX PHANTOM (II R H Phinos Fard Salmer) M Sevel 9 O

DASHEDIX CHEF (85) (Lard Houngson) M Jewel 9 O

DESETT SPA (JSA) (The Creatharts P Harris 9 O.

MEDIAHAM (Francison of Certains Holongs Inc.) During 9 O

MEDIAHAM (Francison Chertains Holongs Inc.) During 9 O

QUANTUS (JSA) (15) (Sir George Meyest) P Obe 9 O

OTHER HOUSESTE (15) (BIT) (JSA W Herrit) W R Herrit 9 O.

D. LEDY FELE (15) (The Feter Bowness Partnership) 5 Mellor 8 9

O RISMON (5) (J. A Ribero Princ) O Luder 8 9

— 1 2 decisioned — HEATTHIC 9-4 Michanson, 7-2 Deaching Planeton, 11-2 Deaching Chief, 8-1 Painwood Star, 10-1 The Terrestor, 18-1 Authors, Reads, 20-1 Deaching Spin, 50-1 others 1996: Borrum Sands 9 O T Quan overs for U During) drove (1) 9 ran PORM GUIDE

None of these with experience has shown much and it seems best to go for Alec Stewart's None of these with experience has shown much and it seems best to go for Alec Stewert's debutant MUTAMAM, who is by 1984 Prix Du Jockey-Club hero Dershein out of a half-se-ter Stream's dual Edipse victor Mittel. The year's Eshammat justified foouritism in trimmendus style on her debut at Neumaries at the beginning of the month and Musamen is reportedly one of Stewert's best juvenities. Michael Stoute's debutant Deseing Philadesia, another son of Dersheam, is out of a Sadier's Wells more and could also be useful. Palarimant Stary, from John Dunlop's in-form stable, is by Caerleon out of Dawn Stori, who has thrown many whoes indusing the same stable's Deviring Street and Special Down. Pick of those to have raced might be Dick Hem's The Taircasbur, who flooped when market leader at Wolvehampton in June after an unplaced Doncaster debut run.

Selections MUTADAM

3.30 BODDINGTONS MANCHESTER GOLD MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV II) £4,050 2YO 7f 140yds Penaity Value £3,114 MUERSK (Hamdan Al Malegumi J Gosden 9 0 ... 2 Mathes (USA) (Hamdon & Materian) M Secure 8 () R Hills 11
3 O PADDY MICSODI (USA) (252) (O Smith) D Deserth 9 () G Pathol 4
4 OS PRAEFERMAN BOLD (12) (Due Gold Search Synthesis (2)) R Hennon 9 () Disse Oralli 8
5 SADDAN (Phros A A Facat) H Cool 9 () M Hennon 9 () M Fellos 1
6 OO ZURYAN (40) (Alton Recor) (United) 8 Meeters 9 () M Yabbast 5
7 6 ZUREAD (20) (Alton Harmer) (D Lange 9 () M Yabbast 5
8 CUR MOLLY MALDRE (The Fourth Files Partnershot) O Mortey 8 9 M Fellows 8
8 OO SARABEE (14) (Main Walter) M Haynes 8 9 M Meeters 9 4
10 O SUMBANA (20) U K Rugges 6 Max AR Rugges) D Haydri Jones 8 8 S Devers 9 4
11 O TERRITY (REF (127) (Hearmark Stud)) During 8 9 G Carler 7
- 11 declared RETTING: 7-4 Saction, 7-2 Mahibi, 5-1 Malsky, 7-1 Zydeco, 10-1 Trinky Rest (12-1 Paddy McGoon, 14-1 Zwyal, 16-1 Pagestarian Gold, 25-1 orders

FORM GUIDE

This can also go to a newcomer in SADIAN, who is a son of dual Derby here Shirley Heights out of Ratha, who captured the 1990 Prix de Diane for the same yard. Harndan Al Mislatum riik, a Lahib colt trained by John Go Stoute's US-bred Match, who is by Red Ramon. Zydeou, easy to book when unplood against behind Rebi at Nowmerket, will have benefited from the outing, as will Paddy McGoon for

4.00 STELLA ARTOIS STAKES (CLASS C) £7,325 added 5f 653-50 BLUE RIDGE (40) (3) Caich Al Homeoli V Scare 3 8 12 -00224 MY MELLOY PARIES (6) (3) Losoft Heled J Bory 4 8 9 -25010 WILLOW DALE (5) (30) Normal Leidero Bootstandy 0 Els-roth 4 8 8 -25010 WILLOW DALE (5) (87) Niks Cauch Liley (6 Wagg 3 8 7 -7 declared -BET(NRC: 11-10 Collociral, 2-1 Ducking Stor., 5-1 Store Edge, 12-1 My Melody Parkes, 18-1 State

FORM GUIDE

CATHEDRAL should lead the way home here after two cracking runs on his last couple of starts - third behand Manthorpe dead-haster 14 Allak in the Sandown Sprint and half-length second to Aveni in the Group Three King George Stakes at Goodwood, where he led inside

__P Fessery (3) 4 ____K Stad (5) 3 ____K Durley 5 ___J Renable 1 V

6 024322 WARRIOR KING (12) C Dayor 8 1 JF Eigest 9
7 450220 SERETSE'S HEPHEW (11) M Polyace 7 12 D Williams (7) 3
8 000-0 THE DESIGNS 0005E (23) Mrs / Romadon 7 11 .1 Chemook 2
9 000-0 FREEDOM OF TROY (44) J1 Eyes 7 11 J Williams 15
9 EXTENCE 9-4 Mitchinks, 100-30 Warrior Ming, 11-2 Feel A Line, 13-2
Dailyton, 7-1 Serobar's Nephers, 8-1 JHS 00 The Stroot, 10-1 The Dehices Goose, 14-1 Rode Arminosing, 25-1 Freedom Of Troy

3.50 STEVE WOOD MEMORIAL NURSERY HAND-ICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 2YO 77 30yds

335 BOULEVARD ROUSE (JISA) (21) M Johnston 9 7... J Wenzel 233435 MARIBAN'S BOT (29) J Bony 9 6... T E Derest 300 WISHBONE ALLEY (35) M Doss 9 2 — Alex Green 3400 GREAT (17H LASS) (40) F Entre 9 1 — J F Egen 005430 LORD OF LOVE (35) T Enterby 9 0 — L Charme

- 30 decimed -8ETRIG: 100-30 Lecture, 9-3 November's Styr, 5-1 Southward Rouge, 8-1 Great Lyth Leon, 8-1 Lord Of Love, Inchalong, 10-1 harhallab, On The Med.

4.20 FORTH AM CLAIMING LIMITED STAKES (CLASS E) £4,025 added 3YO 1m 4f

452021 LE GRAND GOUSSER (J27) R Visitore 9 6 D Guillities (2) 4
040030 GRANE TRIES (J.5) E Weymas 8 12 Derroll 6
25-600 LIGHTHANS REBEL (J.5) (8F) C Thoman 6 10 D Femiliag 1
06366 MORARDITS PURSUIT (24) T Essenty 8 8 J

3.10 C H ROOFING SERVICES MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS E) £4,250 added 2m 5f

UPP-34 CORPORAL MERCHGOD (S) M Tochurer 7 11 5 P Nives CS-SP 1900X SUR (S) R Compon 5 11 5 P Fores SPR6-5 PRINCE BALLARAR (S) N BOOM 8 11 5 M Poster 465PP- THE EMERCISER (SS) D Lamb 11 11 5 D Burlin

3.40 EBAC LTD HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 added 2m 5f

3992-5 TWO FOR ONE BO MES L RU

0569-3 WED BROOK (\$) 8 Bison 7 115_

the final futions but was unable to contain the winner's whithand finals. Brawe Edge has an many sound roces since his last win, at Kempton in June of 1986, but was only tenth in the Sondown event. Deshing Blue rates the main times, having followed his York defeat of Crofters Cellich with a third of 30 behind Denetine in the Stewards Cup, beaton a neck and a half a length – Williaw Dale 22nd and 150 worse in. The Joseph Heler-Jock Berry combination, successful in this a year ago with Lucky Parkes, by again with her half-elser My Melody Parkes but the Teanoso Rily has comething to find tolowing a five-length fourth or Engange in New York take time. Selection: CAT-PEPRAL

4	.30	STELLA DRY CLASSIC HANDICAP (CLASS D) £4,900 addled 1m 3f 108yds Penaity Value £3,900
1	05-205	RECEIVER RISAL (13) (POSEs Destrat) W Haggs 5 10 0
2	521-00	PROSPERO (16) (Ars Gaynor Sensori) Mrs A Perrett 4 9 8
3	4-50	JASEUR (USA) (24) (Sheith Mohemered) J Gorden 4 9 8
4	4-0035	SHAHER (ALSA) (200 S) Hurter) D Haydh Jores 7 9 6 S Droven 12
5	0-5422	TWO SOCKS (16) (CD) (Mrs Satu Metrs) J Pang 4 9 5
6	3300	ALAPSAIST (19) (Ness M Sheefer) R Charton 39 4T Speake 4
7	10-004	BANDORE (78) KG (Laty Harrison) O Loder 3 9 4 R Cochrone 7
a		BOLD BUSTER (24) Probet & Bors has Deabeth Hosters Baiding 4.8.2
9	000043	MENDORT HOUSELT (24) (CD) U 7-Murhead & J Loreau R Alerterst 88 12 S Senders 9
10		HOREUC CREST (17) (The Greet Duries) P Harts 3 8 11
11	000-	ELHAPID (USA) (387) (familian Al Makinum) W R Hem 3 8 11 R Hills 3
12		PALAGNON (20) (Mes 8 Sure) G Beiting 3 8 0
13		WALEREN KONCOLE (20) OA'S 8 SUZYIES C HOUSEN 4 7 12 M Cadale 14
14		PETER PERFECT (29) (The Prop Parrers) R Curts 3 7 12 I Love 13
15		BELLAEDANA (21) (Conten Portressing) M Fetherston-Godey 3 7 11 R Phronch (3) 23
16		SHADED (15) Se Clerrent Fraut) 5 Dow 3 7 10
		10 declared
15-		To AAR You bendess weeks Pharted 34 75

Minimum seage: 7st 10th, True handcap weeps: Stantan 7st 7th.
BETTHC: 4-1 Herenot Knight, 13-2 two Socks, 7-1 Handle Crest, 8-1 Berning, 9-1 Jesser, 20-1 Handlet,
Bifehld, Ballagrans, Palaszon, 12-5 Bold Bester, Peter Perfect, 14-1 Bandons, 16-1 Stabile, Stand-

week, has an alternative en-

gagement, however, in the

Sprint Cup at Haydock on Sat-urday week. That is also the next

destination for another of Ta-

bor's runners, the Stewards'

Bishid, Bellagane, Patawon, 12-1 Sold Baster, Peter Perfect, 14-1 Bandons, 16-1 Steblit, Steblid, 25-1 others.

1896: Veriden 3 8 12 G Hind 8-1 (P Harts) drawn (2) 10 cm

FORM Strope

NEWPORT KNIGHT gained the first of his three wins to date over course and distance in 1995 – the other two at Windsor in 1995 – and looks set to regain winning brackers after going down a neck and the same behind Korstoons and letter at Rippin on Tueday. Two Scelle, whose sages success to ave came over course a distance at Rippin on Tueday. Two Scelle, whose sages success to ave came over course a distance 13 months ago, has shown signs of raturning to form in his last two cusings – beaten three perts of a length by Eagle Carryon at Lucester and half a length by Perrine From Heaven over this trip here 16 days ago when as Lacester and near a length by Ferring From passwan over this tip here 2.0 days ago when Prospero (8th better) was more than seven lengths south in seventh of 1.1. Jeff King's charge is up 3th but might be the one who gives Newport Knight most to do. Burning hasn't shown much in his two nuns since his phort-head defeat by Whot A Fuss on his reopposence at Yarmouth six weeks back and is on 10st but must go on the shortlest with Neren Fallon booked, John Gosdon's Jassour, who topides handsop company for the first time, could im-prove for the first time vegor.

5.00 H P BULMER HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,300 added 3YO 2m (AW) Penalty Value £2,277W J D'Controf 10 ... A McGlode __A Wholes (3) 1/ _C Lowther (5) 2 1 ___D Hellerd 13 1

BETTRICE 5-1 II Principa, 6-1 Station Melody, 7-1 Robbs, 6-1 Robbs, Salat, Signatur, 6-1 Juniosa, Re %, 12-1 E

warmow, 10-1 somes search, 25-1 streeting Levy, Sair Mandre search, 16-1 need search, 26-1 delens
1998: Mischer Star 3 9 5 T (ulm 7-1 (D Baroth) drawn (11) 11 nm
FORM GURDE

R. PREMONEE has improved since being besten out of sight on his only provious effort on
this surface last November, John Berry's charge comes here in good heart having won two
of his last three races, at Hamilton and Musselburgh, finishing a good second to Globe Runnor On the formet text in habitate. They have set in the harmat and had been bestelled. ner on the former track in between. True, he has yet to race beyond a mile and a half but, provided he lasts home, the son of Ela-Mana-Mou can score again. Lord Huntingdon's Rear provided the basis frome, the son of Ela-Mania-Mou can score again. Lord Humangdon's Ream Window, half-brother to three witness including Dislette hallo was in the same stable) is an interesting number on this heradical debut and in a first-brune visor. Robbe stommed in by six lengths in an immittent mouder handloop on the sand at Southwell two weets ago and will pose a threat if as affective on today's surface, Juschinda, who motels her all-weather debut, hearth shown much in hier less from outlings but was second twice of Nottingham in May before that — befind Tango King, besten half a length, and Right Man — and could prove troublesome if she adapts to the surface. Frankle Deston takes the nide. Lightly read Sluties Melody had a dozen length to spare over Stpowitz, when maked out by the edde-on Ginger Rogass in a four-numer race at Bath three weeks ago and should confirm the form on 9th worse terms. Ron Bose has booked Neven Felton for the gelding. Sipowitz, a winner at Wolverhampton in June and on our here less month, made his Equitrack debut a couple of days effect Best, finishing a remote fourth of nume behind Mister Aspecto. See Glamone Lady was beaten 1.1 lengths when numer-up to Media Star at Redcar in June and was miles.

4.50 PERGODA APPRENTICE HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,500 added 5f

0-0201. INSSIPUL BRAVE (2-9 (D) 8 Brogh 8 9 5... Derrow Mich 214000 PALLEDIN (1) (00) D Nolan 8 9 0... K Shed 005803 BOWCLIFFE GRANKE (8) (D) (EF) D Chapman 5 8 13...

053010 DONA FELPA (S) (SC) Mile L Sector 4 8 12 (7ee T Sector (S) 4 105305 TORONTO (AND AND 1 DESCRIPTION (S) 4

— 17 declared — Enange, 7-1 Picticato, 8-1 imp BETUNG: 3-1 (mos The Border, 5-1 Bowell's Stange, 7-1 Picticato, 8-1 imp Durces, 13-1 Standed Stave, 12-1 Chemicat, Samuel Harbour, Kalcost, 14-1 Pallium, 18-1 Second Sir Puter, Southern Dominion, 20-1 others

4.10 HATHAWAY ROOFING THY NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 2m 5f 110yds

4.40 UNION HALL SIENA STUDY MAIDEN HUR-DLE (CLASS E) £3,000 2m 1f

SETTING: 7-4 Terded, 7-2 Balance, 6-1 Myelic Times, 7-1 Savelu, 6-1 Sty Ledy, 10-1 Petit Flora, 14-1 Thomstoon Jewel, 16-1 Castiller, 20-1 Ruylou

13 453200 SOUTHERN DOLLEGON (23) (CD) Miss J Charty Because (5) 6

Lampard left out of British team

Equestrianism

GENEVIEVE MURPHY reports from Mannheim

Di Lampard's hopes of a place oo the British team for this week's European Show Jumping Championships ended in vesterday. when the team was named.

Geoff Billington, riding Virtual Village It's Otto, will be first to go for the British team in today's opening leg of the contest, which will be judged on time. He will be followed by Michael Whitaker on Ashley, Robert Smith oo Senator Tees Hanauer and John Whitaker on Welham.

Lampard, who has shown consistently good form in the last month, will he left to support the team from the sidelines. She will, however, have the chance of compensation when she rides Abbervail Dream in Saturday's Grand Prix.

There was no obvious partpership to discard from the squad of five when Malcolm Pyrah (chairman of the International Committee) and Michael Bullman (chairman of the selectors) made the decision yesterday. Ronnie Massarella, the British team manager, was not involved. He could have been seen to have a vested interest since be owns Orthos, one of Robert Smith's two mounts. It would not have made

much difference. Smith, who gets his first place on a senior championship team, was expected to be chosen with his

Dublin Grand Prix winner, Tees Hanauer, who has the better form this year.

The selectors gleaned little from yesterday's two warm-up contests, in which most of the ed that Tees Hanaver and Welham, both aged 17, looked impressively sleek and fit.

said: "I think they'll go well,

John Whitaker enlivened the

horses preparing for the championship merely jumped half a dozen fences or so and then re-

Massarella, who now takes over responsibility for the team, though on the big day you al-ways need luck. The Dutch are very strong and 1'm always frightened of the Germans on their home soil."

Mecklenburgischen Prize, the first of yesterday's two warm-up classes, on Virtual Village Grannusch. Unlike most of the others, he was not riding his championship horse and was under oo constraint to conserve his mount. Even if they had all been trying, it would have been hard to catch the chestnut, who won by 5.02sec.

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ore R, ns

ooigo

Ireland's Paul Darragh, who rides Cera in the championships, was similarly unre-strained when he won the Baden-Wurttemberg Prize on the mare Scandal. He had jumped the Australian-hred nine-year-old to two clear rounds in the Duhlin Nations Cup, but decided she was too inexperienced to tackle the championships here.

Results, Digest page 23

Optimistic England

BILL COLWILL

England were in optimistic mood last night at Bisham Abbey as they made their plans to lay the Australia bogey to rest and entertained their guests to

The teams meet this evening at Basingstoke in the first of their two Test series in the knowledge that England have not beaten their great rivals since winning 2-0 in Melbourne in 1985 with goals from Richard Dodds and Imran Sherwani.

England's optimism is based partly on the approach they showed in a training game against Southgate last Sunday, which they won 7-1 - newfound aggression paid dividends - and partly on the briefing their manager, David Whittle, and their coach, Dick Clarke, gave them after watch-ing Tuesday evening's game in which Australia beat the Eng-

land Under-21 side 3-1. The new aggression largely follows the return of the Old Loughtonians pair, Julian Halls and Nick Thompson, in a very experienced squad.

Halls has returned from a spell in the Netherlands looking extremely fit and sharp in de-

fence. Thompson added a new dimension to the attack with his bustling, shoot-on-sight style. Australia, who flew in after finishing third in the Four Nations tournament in Hamburg at the weekend, have had their problems recently. Their new coach, Terry Walsh, is trying to find a halance between youth, and experience. His cur-rent squad includes 11 from

their Olympic bronze medal SQUACL

BNBIAND (protein): D Lasthes (Set Grinstead);
A Hampdray (Cannock, J Wyett (Redding), J
Halls (Dis Loughtoness), B Forditson (Foursiow);
B Sharpe (Cannock) J Pistopek (Cannock), B
Wangh (Southque): B Crustolley (Cannock), B
Garde, (HDM, capt), N Thompson (Dis Loughtoness), B
Hall (Southque): B Masson (Reading), C Billios
Helm Zwisterland), D Woods (Southque): D Hall
Graidford, C Billiowe (Cannock).

nanti, Strassmand, D Woods (2004).
(Guidoted), C Mayer (Carnock).

AUSTRALIA (from: L Dreher, D Daless, M York
(copt), S Caratheri, C Crotet, S Daves, J Duff,
J Histors, J Erner, B Carard, P Gaudoin, P Levis,
1 Snov, D Sproule, D Warnstrough. * THE INDEPENDENT



SPIEZER 2.10 Willy Star 2.40 Silent Guest 3.10 Corporal Kirkwood 3.40 The Toester 4.10 Lord Of The Rings

GOING: Good to First.

Left-hand, undulating course. Easy fences and long run-in.

Course is Im SE of Lown nest junction of A689 and A177. Buses from Stocision (9m) or Durham (12m). ADMISSION: Paddock SS (OAPs 54); Course S2. CAR PARK; Paddock S2, rest free.

LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs M Evedey — 56 winners from 200 runners gives a success ratio of 28%; G M Moore 18 from 101 (17.8%); J H Johnson 18 from 147 (12.2%).

MALOTON; e in seminate to atom of the Calebra;

ELEADING JOCKEYS: P Niven 42 wins from 140 riches gives a vaccess ratio of 30%; A Magahre 15 from 58 (22.1%); J Callaghan 14 from 26 (16.3%); A Dobbin 14 from 121 (11.0%).

BRIGHTON

2-20: 1. SIMPLY SUPER (M HODERS 2-1)
1 far; 2. Jus*chille* (10-1; 3. Chilaspearry
5-2, a ras. 2-1) (fav Lady Laptrosig (4th).
14.1 (C British, Newtoriss). Tota: £1.90;
£1.90, £2.90. DF: £8.80. CSF: £1.90.3.
2-50: 1. GUESSTEMATION (C Bardwell)
13-2; 2. Negri Wisk (10-30; 3. Peuril Desen
13-1; 11 rus. 7-4 fav Rehasb (5th). Sht-hd,
3. UPastor, Newtorise0, Tota: £8.00: £2.40,

2. Clouds Hill 10-1: 3. Sampers Song 100-30 fax. 15 tem. 2½, strt-td. (G Leats. Epsoro). Total: £7.80; £2.30. £2.90. £1.70. DF:

208.50. CSF: £71.80. Totast £241.35. Tec:

28,30.

3.50: 1 (A DOYENNE (K Fakin) 6-1; 2.

2.20; 1. SIMPLY SUPER (M Roberts) 2-1

The Green Crey 33-1; 3. Incertises 16-1: 6 can. 6-4 fav Passion (5th), 8, 11, (C Booth, Fission), Total: £3.90; £1.60, £4.40, DF: £24.70, CSF: £127.21, 420-1, NYSTICAL (K Faton) 5-1; 2. Hever Golf Mover 4-1; 3. Settle Factors 5-1.

er Golf Moner 4-1; 2. Sette Factors 8-1.
9 ran. 3-1 fev Gold Edge (Sth), ¼, ½. (Mrs. 1. Stubts. York). Totac £8.20; £1.90, £1.70, £3.40. DF. £1.90. (SF: £23.72. Tricas: £146.41. Tric: £40.90. After a stemants' in-

£146.41. Tric: 240.50 and cuty, placings unablered.
4.60: 1. NVORT'S GRAB HERE (Martin Duyer) 4-1; 2. Village Native 5-1; 3. Deute Flyer 3-1 fav. 9 rate. Nt. 5. IK Nory, Racketti. Totae £4.60; £1.60, £2.40, £1.50. DF: £11.30. CSF: £23.56. Tricast £63.95. Trics £11.80. NRs: Another Batchworth, Teer

2.10 WELCOME TO A NEW SEASON CLAIMING HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,575 2m 1f

3204 SANS ENVILE (43) 8 Mechan 8 6.... 0000 SHIRLEYS CHIL (53) W Story 8 8....

DETTRICE G.6 Odel Girl. 4-1 Autor Lady, 9-2 Some Rivelle, 13-2 for Not Sore,

2.50 ROYAL SCOTS CUP HANDICAP (CLASS D)

-02613 WELSH MILL (42) (D) (BF) Mrs M Raveley 8 10 (L. K Davley)

3.20 PERTEMPS CALEDONIAN RECRUITMENT HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,500 310 7f 30yds

131641 PEEL A LINE (19) (7) 8 Medien 8 7 ... 321232 HI MILITARD (3) (0) 5 Nettiewell 8 6... 004333 DAMTITEE (28) H Collinguign 8 2

-- 6 declared -BETTING: 7-4 Edea Dancer, 15-8 Why Star, 7-2 Bares, 8-1 Nonice, 16-1

2.40 STOCKTON WHOLESALE HANDICAP HUR-PLE (CLASS F) £3,000 2m 5f 110yds SAN MYSTIC (17) 0 Virge 5 11.5

CARTLESLE
210:1 DURSAMS PROT A Current 7-4
for, 2 Forzale 9-4; 3 Golden Dursderholt
9-2; 6 mat. 1, 24; 6 for M Raveley, Saltourn.
foto: £1.90; £1.10, £1.80, DF; £2.60, CSF;
55.30, NR Burley's Frend.
2.40; 1 RAMBIER (DEST (R Lappin)
14:10 Marchane Martin 9-2; 3, Marchane
14:10 Marchane Martin 9-2; 3, Marchane
14:10 Marchane Martin 9-2; 3, Marchane

Tojechett.
2. Kellmat 7-2 tor, 3. Trajes Hem 7-1, 11 ran, N., 37-(1) O'Neil, Penridi, Tota: £460, 11-0, 180, 153.0. DF: 19.90, CSF. £20.66, Trac £29.40, After a statement inquiry, placengs unablated. 3.40: 1. DOUBLE OSCAR (Alex Greeces)

7-1; 2. Tier 2-1 for 3. Saint Express 7-1; 4. Memolo 9-1, 17 ren. 1½, 1½, (D. Netrets, Thirs), Totas (9-5); 22-20, 6-110, 62-10, 62-70, 62-60, Again 9-2 3. Snowbess 8-1.7 Fam. evens by Take A Risk (5m), Sm-1d, 3%, U Berry, Codemani, Totar 53-50; 1180, £5.80, Dr: \$7.30, CSP: £13.22, NR: Anssad; 4.40; 1. STDNED MACULATE U Famme)

WORCESTER WORCESTER
2.00: 1. PALAMON (A Magure) 11-4; 2. Society Magic 5-1; 3. Aladiek 16-1, 13 ran. 4-5 fav Fabuon. 3½, 8. (P Eccles). Total: 53-40; 51-10, 61-90, 53-10. DP: £17-20. CSF: £16-79, Trox £19.00.
2.30: 1. DAUPHEN BLEU (Mass V Roberts) 14-1; 2. Arctic Thamph 11-4 fav; 3. Sightly Special 5-1, 11 ran. 6, 13. (J M Bradiey). Total: £15-20; £3-90, £1-50, £2-00. DP: £79.70. CSF: £49.79. Trocast: £210.08. Trio: £51.40.

4.00: 1. WALKENS TALL (M Basthelor 16-1; 2. Supermick 3-1; 3. Evidano Kiesa 12-1, 8 ran. 7-4 fav Honeybed Wood, 1½, 1. (I MagOverni, Tote: £26.70; £4.70; £1.30; £1.50. DF: £61.50. GF: £59.70. Totast: £57.56. Trio: £51.50. NR: Frontier Figgr. 4.30: 1. GALATASORI JANE (A P McCoy)

£1.10, £3.20. DF; £2.80. CSF: £2.57, Trip: £15.80.

RACING RESULTS

4.40: 1. STONED MACCULATE (Ferring)
7-2: 2. Permy Peppermint 7-4: 3. Perlethorpe 3-1 if tw. 9 ran. 3-1 if tw. Straffan
Golf (50), 5. V. If Marphy, Middistant, Tota:
64.90: 62-30, 62.00, 61.90, 09: 518.50.
CSF: 527.59. Thicast 676.89. Box 518.20.
Jackspot: 654,662.60 - part viru. Post of
£10,778.55 carted forward to lighted inday.
Placepot: 618.50. Quantipot: 85.00.
Place 6: 644,03. Place 5: £34.91.

551.40. 3.00:1 ANDRELOT (R Durwood) 10-11 for 2. Only Henry 100-30; 3. Who's To Say 25-1. 4 rac. 9, 65t. (P Bosen). Tate: £1.50.

3.30: 1. AMITGE (A P McCoy) 2-5 fav; 2. Sterna Creek 11-2; 3. Fortune Hopper 16-1. 9 ran. 2/s. 17. (M.Pipe), Tota: £1.60; £1.30,

9-11 fee; 2. Plintin 3-1; 3. John Roger 20-1; 2 ma. Dest, 7. (P. Nichols). Total: £1.70; £1.10, £2.50, DP: £2.10. CSP: £3.15. 5.00: 1. REBAL ABSENCE (R. Thomton) 2-5 [av; 2. Sherman Potter 14-1; 3. Kates Charm 68-1. 21 ras. 3, ¼. (D Netrolson). Total: £1.40; £1.10, £7.10, £11.00, DF: £13.30, CSF: £8.10, Tho: £463.80. Placepot: £27.80, Quedoot: £11.70. Place 5: £30.92. Place 5: £9.03.

Such is the impact Tiger Woods has made that even if he quit golf today he would be more than a footnote in sporting history

normally, I find the facts and figures of sport boring. Yesterday was dif-ferent. Yesterday brought the news that Tiger Woods, in his first season as a golf professional, has brought in \$653m (£408m) of "new mnney" to the sport and is such a boon to television that viewing figures for the final round of the four major championships were up by nearly 59 per cent from 57.6 million homes to 91.5

Even people who are mystified by the heed given to the propulsion of a small white ball over open countryside cannot fail to be impressed by those statistics.

They establish beyond all reasonable doubt that Woods, at just 21 years old, is already one nf sport's leading figures. The clue to him in conversation, there is the unhis future, and what a future it avoidable impression that he knows promises to be, lies, I believe, not only in power and imagination but in the subconscious desire for genuine heroes.

It helps that golf is a well-man-nered game, but where in sport is there anyone so talented with such a pleasing profile. Woods's smile is now as famous as his ability to make course architects look ridiculous. If he scowls people are quick to for-

What we see is not only brilliant application of a gift but enthusiasm, intelligence and quite remarkable maturity. If Woods is not the greatest player golf has ever seen, he will probably get there.

When you look at Woods, hear

there is a lot to be thankful for ethnic background that might have made it difficult for him to break into an overwhelmingly white sport but for his demeanour and ease in communication .

Such is the impact Woods has made that even if he quit golf today he would be more than a footnote in sporting history. After only twelve months on the USPGA Tour (with winnings of almost £3m) people associate him with golf in the way they associate Muhammad Ali with boxing and Sir Donald Bradman with cricket. This is a true measure of

As for the institution of fame it-



self how many performers in sport today can claim to meet the criteria of history? A sportswriter I once knew, a man of considerable talent and understanding, once said in a rueful moment that real sports heroes were becoming so thin on the

extinct species. There are plenty of people who can play and fight, but not many I would be happy to have round for dinner," he said.

We hear and read so much about the scale of earnings in sport today I suppose it's only natural to suppose that old values have become re-dundant. Largely due to the influ-ence of television, substance often takes second place to presentation.

It is triumphantly claimed in some quarters that sport, in the main, is a damn sight better than it used to be. But what you have to say is that very few sports performers now are likely to come up smelling of roses. Sportsmanship excites the public about as much as hrass

people whose natural heroism captured the nation's attention. You can make an anniversary out of most events, triumphs, tragedies, the passing of great men, but in the context of this theme something that oc-curred 60 years ago on Saturday is

worth putting forward. On 30 August, 1937 Tommy Farr challenged Joe Louis for the heavyweight championship of the world in New York. Farr was the sort of hero I've been going on about. A for-mer collier from Tonypandy in South Wales he once walked to London looking for work and by the age of 23 had taken part in more than 100 professional contests, often

fighting twice a week. When Farr went in with Louis the

throughout the land huddled of Farr's progress. Bonfires blazed on the hills around Tonypandy and reports were sent down to working miners. It was thought in the Unit-ed States that Louis, a renowned puncher, would end the fight quicky but Farr took him the distance. You may think me biased in this but it was the best performance ever given abroad by a British heavyweight and made Farr a hero for the rest

of his life. On this note of nostalgia I leave you with the thought that Tiger Woods represents the stuff of which history is made. One of the few heroes in an age of cardboard cut-

Wild card choice may be delayed

ANDY FARRELL

reports from Munich

"Thank God, it'll all be over on Sunday." said Colin Montgomerie as he hoarded his plane for Munich. Monty, who, like US Open champion Ernie Els, is one of the few lucky ones at the BMW International not concerned about his Ryder Cup place, captured the right mood concerning the year-long qualification process and the (almost as long) speculation over Seve Ballesteros's two wild cards,

But as a statement of fact, the Scot's words could yet prove erroneous. There is a possibility that Ballesteros, the European captain, will not name his additional selections even after the places at Valderrama are confirmed at the weckend.

Any delay will centre on the fitness of Miguel Angel Martin, whose wrist tendon injury was expected to prevent him from playing for the rest of the season. The Spaniard, who won the Heineken Classic in Perth in Febry, itas neen in the top 10 on the points list ever since the qual-

ifying started last September. But he has been slipping down the standings since he pulled out of the World Invitational at Loch Lomond, and then aggravated the injury by playing in the Open with a cortisone injection, against the advice of the Open doctor. An operation left Martin in plaster

for three weeks. In Ircland, a week ago, Ballesteros said: "Even if he makes the team, he will not be able to play." If one of the too 10 at the end of qualifying cannot play, the 11th man is automatically selected. By gaining that position after finishing joint third at the European Open on Sunday, Jose Maria Olazabal looked to have solved his captain's wild card puzzle.

Martin's cast was removed on Monday and when he spoke to Bailesteros on Tuesday, he indicated a desire to prove his fitness. "Martin has not withdrawn,"

1 Colls Nontgomerie (Sec) .873625.97pts*

Automatic selection, not playing 3 Beament Langer (Ger)......519,148.47

Automatic selection
6 Lee Westwood (Eng)468,153.59

According to the first secure a place of the first secure of the f

Not playing, injured 11 Jose Murte Olezabel (Sp) ...315,461.84 Meeds top-20 finish to pass Martin

Reeds top-20 finish to pass Martin 12 Padraig Hardington (in) 293,517.82 Needs top-seven to pass Martin, top-see to

13 Paul Broadwarst (Eng) _271,702.46 Needs top-ovo to pass Martin, top-ovee to catch Classabil

1.4. Insidem Hanggasen (Swe) 243,640.08
Must be first or second to pass Martin and
Obsabel

Legis Warsov (1) v Glensvon (1) (6.0) ... Nat Buchsrest (5) v Cwebran (2) (7.0) ... Shelhounte (1) v Kilmarnock (2) (7.30) ...

See Bechards (1) v Kümarnock (2) (7.30).
Other ties: Hapoel Bearsheba (Ba) (0) v
Zaigns Vikrus (Linh) (0); Shakintor Donatsa (Uler (1) v Zimbru Chismau (Mol) (1);
Kapaz Ganja (Azari (0) v Denabung Daugavats (Lat) (1); Red Star) Belgarde (Nug)
(0) v Nikr Heisenbu (Fin) (1); NK Zagrab (Cos) (2) v Sioga Jugomaniat (Mac) (1);
Budapest Vasutas (Hun) (3) v Balzest (Jugomaniat (Mac) (1);
Vallenta Sadam (Est) (1); Union Linennoung (0) v Primone Ajdonscina (Sloven)
(2); Slovan Bratislava (Slovak) (1) v Levshi Sofia (Bul) (1); Ararat Yerevan (Arm)
(4) v Dynamo Batumi (Geor) (2); Vest-

Assured of finishing No 1 2 Dames Clarke (N ire)...

he has a right to play. He will have one week after Sunday to make a decision."

Should Martin remain 10th on the points list - and Olazabal just nceds to finish 20th or better to pass him - Ballesteros may prolong the wait for Nick Faldo and

Jesper Parnevik. Olazabal and Padraig Harrington, who needs to be fifth to pass Martin, are best placed to make the team, but anyone down to Miguel Angel Jimenez in 23rd position could make the top 10. "I have no problem if anyone plays their way on to the team," Ballesteros said.

As for Faldo's complaint that he should have heard from the captain by now. Ballesteros said: "I made it very clear from the beginning that no ooe should have a wild card before 10 who have carned automatic the top 10 is decided. It is a disrespect to the other players."

Faldo, however, does not give up easily. "I've played more Ryder Cups than eight or nine of the automatic places put together," he said yesterday at Forest of Arden, near Coventry, where he is supporting his Junior Classic Series.

Right from the pre-event dinner you can tell the youngsters what is going to happen. It can help clevate their games to a level they've never been before.

"We are underdogs again, and that is why we must draw on our experience. I very much want to be there. I've played 10 in a row and I don't think this should be my last."

Sam Torrance and Paul Broadhurst Other team contenders are paired together, "There is enough pressure as it is," said Roger Chapman, who plays with Olazahal and Joakim Haeggman. Second place could be good enough for the Kenyahorn golfer to qualify, something he has done six times in his winless career on tour.

Chapman, 38, was on the way to see his coach on Monday when his car, a BMW, spun off the road. He escaped shaken but unscathed. "I got a tesson over the phone instead and that Ballesteros said. "If he qualifies, seems to have worked," he said.

Must win to pass Martin and Classbal

Must win to pass Martin and Olazabal

19 Devid Gillord (Eng)218,417.42

20 Peter Balter (Eng)211,861.58 Must vin to pass Martin and Olazabai

21. Russell Claydon (Eng) ...207,595,00 Must win to pass Martin and Olazabal

22 Raymond Russel (5000)207,176.70

25 Nick Faldo (Eng)191,120.73

marmeeyjar (Ice) (1) v Hilbernians (Malta (0); Apoel Nicosia (Cyp) (1) v HB ibrshaw

PONTHIS LEAGUE Premier Division: Notangham Forest v Leeds (7.0). First Di-vision: Notts County v West Bromwich (7.0), Second Division: Barnsley v Wrax-

nam (7-0).

##ON INSURANCE CORRENATION First
Division: Liston v Millwell (2.0); Norwich
v Arsaral (7.30); West Ham v Swindon Crys-tal Paleca v Toltenham (2.0).

FIRST TEST: England v Australia (Bas-

Other sports
BOWLS: EMBA National Champtonships
(Worthing): Atlantic Rim World Champtonship (Liendrindod Wells).

Must win to catch Circabel

NB. Requirements to cetch Olaza on the Spanlard masting the cut)

(*1pt per £1 won)

TODAY'S FIXTURES

THE RACE FOR RYDER CUP

SELECTION

.....514,059.61 17 Mark James (Eng) ...

.....504,813.13



Nottinghamshire's Matthew Dowman clips a ball from David 'Syd' Lawrence on his way to 52 against Gioucestershire yesterday

Graceful Vaughan spurs Yorkshire

DEREK PRINGLE reports from Old Trafford

Yorkshire 247-3 v Lancashire

The whole of Lancashire appeared to be waiting for one thing yesterday, and it was not the Championship. As specu-Ballesteros plays today with lation grew over Michael Atherton's decision regarding the England captaincy, the Roses match went ahead without him, with Yorkshire dominating a rain interrupted first day, foltowing a splendid century from Michael Vanghan.

With the Red Rose's challenge wilted long before the recent hot Championship, eased them- the crease. Even so, the pair a sign that he may continue.

us believe. Indeed, having lost both their chairman. Boh Bennett, and their chief executive, John Bower, in the space of a week. Lancashire, sporting the largest (14,000) membership in the land, are in a sorry state.

They can now look forward to a winter of ferment, with the of graceful drives. A tall wristy securing of Shane Warne the only thing likely to appease their increasingly impatient members.

Lancashire's cricket is not too chipper at the moment either, and after a testing new ball spell by Peter Martin and Ian Austin had been negotiated, Yorkfor the Championship having shire, currently fourth in the

weather, this was not the prick-ly contest tradition would have the confidence of a Michael et before Lancashire managed Schumacher. Only when they lost Vaughan and David Byas in successive overs late in the day, was the Lancashire pulse felt.

Before his demise, playing loosely across an outswinger from Jason Gallian, Vaughan had played a faultless innings full player, Vaughan's strokeplay recalled a less flamboyant Zaheer Abbas, particularly the way in which he disdainfully eased Lancashire's two off-spinoers to the midwicket fence.

It provided a languid contrast to Byas, who - arriving at the fall of Tony McGrath's wicket - was far more circumspect at silence is being interpreted as would also give us an opportu-

to part them, Byas following Vaughan as he failed to clear Martin at mid-off.

Weakened by the absence of Wasim Akram and Glenn Chapple, Lancashire could ill afford to miss Atherton as well. However, the England captain apparently requested this game off in order to take his time, before announcing his decision to both selectors and public.

Yet if most people expected him to stand down by the weekend - the England and Wales Cricket Board even booked a press conference room here

Certainly that was the impression given by David Graveney, the chairman of selectors. For those who know Atherton's singular mind, though, it is probably little more than wishful thinking.

"I've not spoken to Athers since The Oval," said Graveney yesterday. "If he'd made up his mind I'm sure he would have rung me. The fact that he hasn't suggests he is still thinking about it.

"We are meeting on Sunday to discuss logistics relating to the winter tours and that meeting will also give us the chance to consider our options. If Mike for today and tomorrow - the says no to the captaincy, it nity to discuss things further."

sandwiched between stretches uf

uncertainty. He was still des-

perately unlucky to be dismissed

the way he was. But the gods

livery through the off, instead

edged on to his left boot and

thence to the stumps. Robin

Smith, another century-maker

against Yorkshire, and White,

managed to steer Hampshire

safely through to the close

on an appropriate score given the proximity of the HMS

No play yesterday

Fourth Women's

SOUTH AFRICA

One-day international

England v South Africa HNCKLEY: No result (rain).

Laney shaped to drive a de-

were smiling on Ealham.

In-form **Smith** finds way through

Gloucestershire were made to work for their wickets at Bristol yesterday as they fought for the win they needed in the race for the Championship. The Nottinghamshire openers, Tim Robinson and Mathew Dowman, and the wicketkeeper, Wayne Noon, all hit half-cen-

turies, as they reached 255 for 8.

David "Syd" Lawrence, in his latest hid to recover from horrendous knee injuries of five years ago, overcame his early struggle for match fitness with some sharp balls which cost him 37 runs in three spells totalling just 12 overs. But it was his opening partner, Mike Smith, who made the breakthrough for Gloucestershire with a burst of three wickets for 17 runs in 30 deliveries in the afternoon. Dowmao (52) and Rohinson (56) put on 101 for the first wicket on a pitch that provided little bouoce, despite its grassy appearance.

They looked secure enough for another hundred, but then Dowman was held at short midwicket off an optimistic book at Mark Alleyne's medium pace. It hegan a mid-innings collapse, and Notts sooo fell away to 148 for 6, as the pitch began

difficult for an hour or so. Smith found movement trapping Nathan Astle and Ashley Metcalfe leg before and seeing Robinson touch a catch through to the wicketkeeper. Jack Russell. But, as the wicket eased again a watchful Usman Afzaal (23) and Noon put on 78 for the seventh wickel

They were together for 29 overs until Afzaal was picked up at slip, bringing Smith his fourth wicket. Noon fell to a catch at the wicket for 60, and Nottinghamshire ended the first day with a respectable total on the board from their 84 overs.

Capriati still u

There was good news for Gloucestershire, however, from Grace Road where the Championship leaders, Glamorgan, were left kicking their beels as the first day of their game against Leicestershire was completely washed out.

Nasser Hussain led Essex into a Championship match for the first time after Paul Prichard dropped out of the match with Warwickshire. But the England hatsman made only 21 batting at No 3 before he was trapped leg before by Dougie Brown.

Rain restricted play to just 35 overs and in this time Essex advanced to 107 for 3 with Stuart Law looking in ominous form while making an unheaten 30. The other two wickets to fall, those of the openers, Tim Hodgson and Darren Robinson, were both claimed by Graeme Welch. Hodgson was caught behind for 12 while Robinson scored 38 before chipping a simple catch to Allan Donald at short midwicket.

Sussex's batsman Neil Lenham has been forced to retire from first-class cricket due to a persistent foot injury. The 32-year-old, who made his Sus-sex debut in 1984 and was capped six years later, has played in only six Championship matches this season.

TODAY'S NUMBER

10

France have become the first country in football history to have 10 teams taking part in European cup competitions after Lyon, Americ and Bas-tia qualified for the first round of the Lefa Quaying the Intertoto Cua on Tuesday.

Ealham gives Kent something to celebrate

DAVID LLEWELLYN

reports from Portsmouth Hampshire 111-2

15 Roger Chapman (Eng)242,372.45 It was not quite party time, but Must be first or second to pass Martin and as hirthdays go, Mark Ealham's 28th was not had -16 See Torrence (Sco)240,797.93 once the weather relented, which it had by mid-afternoon. The Kent and England all-Must be first to pass Mertin, second to catch Clausted rounder came on straight after tea and by the time he took B well-deserved break two of the

Britannic Assurance County Championship

Derbyshire v Somerset DERS: Derbyshire are 73 for 2 in the lamings against Somerset.

A | Harrist not Oil

A | Harrist not Oil

K | Bernett not Oil

Color | Service |

Fall: 1-67 2-71.

To bet: M E Casset, II G Cork, †K M Krilden,

P A | DeFretze, S | Licey, D E Malcolm,

Boesling for detail: Caddick 12-3-32-1: Shee

9-2-30-0; Rose 3-1-6-1: Nushten 1-0-2-0.

Pressures, D E | Heldenie, #E | Turner, *S

CHELMSFORD: Essex (Opts) are 107 for 3 in their first laxings against Warwicksthe (1).

Syst won toss
ESSEY - -

ESSEY. First leadings

I D J Robinson c Doreld b Welch

T P Hodgson c Piper b Welch

N Hussain Bw b Brown

First day of four; 11.0 today

Somerset won Joss
DERBYSHIRE - First leadings
A S Rotins ret hart
M R May c Turner b Rose
T A Twests the b Caddick

Hampshire batsmen had been out there was not, but that was snuffed out like so many birthday candles.

There was little surprise among the Hampshire faithful when the captain, John Stephenson, lost the toss, after all he had not won the previous six in the Championship, hut what did raise evebrows was the decision of his opposing cap-tain, Steve Marsh, to field.

Perhaps the greenish tinge on the pitch persuaded him that there would be something in it for his bowlers. As things turned

WARRYCKSHERE: "N V Knog"t, A J Moles, D L Herrip, D P Cester, T L Penney, N M K Smith, II R Brown, G Wetch, A F GRes, †K J Piper, A

Gloucs v Nottinglandsuhire BRISTOL: Nottinghamshire (2pts) are 295 for 2 in time fast lanings against Gouces-trashire (3). Gloucestarshire won 2055

Gloucestershire Wort toos

MOTTHNGHAMSHIRE — First, lennings
M P Downten C Young b Alleyne ...
R T Robinson C Russell b Strick
N J Aste New b Smith
P Johnson C and b Alleyne ...
P Johnson C and b Alleyne ...
A A Metasile Ibw b Smith
U Absell C Bell b Smith
C M Tolley C Russell b Lewis
K P Beans not out

9-5-6-0.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: M. G. N. Windows, N. J.

Teahor, T. H. C. Hancock, R. I. Dawson, S. Young,

"M. W. Abeyne, I. R. C. Russell, M. C. J. Stell, A. M.

Smith, J. Lawls, D. V. Lawrence,

Unspiress: T. E. Jesty and D. R. Shepherd.

Hampshire v Kent PORTSMOUTH: Hampshire are 111 for 2 in their first lavings against Kent.

HAMPSTREE - First Innings

J.S. Laney & Eathern

M. L. Hayden & Headley & Ezham

G. W. White not out

Kent won toss

Umpires: J Il Bond and J F Steele.

understandable. Just two weeks ago, on a pitch not far from the present one, more than 1,200 runs were amassed for the loss of 27 wickets when Yorkshire

were the visitors. On that occasion Giles was not going to give Ealham

White scored his maiden Championship century and the way he anchored himself at one eod last night suggested that a quick follow-up would be a distinct possibility. He at least

Extres (03 r04)
Total (for 2, 45 overs) 111
Falt 1-48 2-81.
To bet M Keech, *J P Stepherson, 1A N
Aymes, S II Udal, L Savdent, S J Renshaw,

S M Miltorn.

Bowfing (b. darte): Headley 6-1-26-0; Philips 113-24-0; Eathern 11-4-28-2; Flering 9-2-22-0; Strang 6-2-11-0.

NEMTLE P Futton, E I Smith, T R Ward, A P Wells, II R Cowdrey, M A Eathern, M V Fleming, *15 A Marsh, P A Strang, II W Headley, II Philips.

Umplies: A Clarkson and II J Constant.

Yourdshire won tess
Yourdshire. Priest innings
A McGrath e Loyd b Yates 33
M P Veughan b Gelfan 105
TO Blass Co Martin b Green 61
D S Lehmann not out 17
C EW Shewtwood not out 8
Edwar 165 104 not 14
Total for 3, 72 evers), 247
Felt 1-99 2-216 3-222
To bat C Wreg, B Parker, TR J Blakey, G M
Hamilton, P M Hardrison, R D Stemp.
Bowling for date): Mertin 15-3-41-0, Austin 15-3-50-0; Orien 15-6-31-2; Yates 15-0-56-1; Wardinson 8-0-32 o; Gallian 4-0-28-1.
Lancasymins N I Wood, J E R Gallan, J P
Lancasymins N I Wood, J E R Gallan, J

LANCASHRE: N T Wood, J E R Gallen 4-0-29-1 LANCASHRE: N T Wood, J E R Gallen, J D Crawley, N H Fairbrether, G D Loyd, *M Wasten, son, 10 Ausen, tw K Hegg, Il Yotes, P J Mar-th, R J Green, Umpires: N T Plews and A G T Whitehead.

Northamptonshire v Durham Northamptonshire v Durham Northamptonshire are 4 for B in their first unlings against Durham after rain stopped play.

Lancashire v Yorkshire

den, the prolific Australian. The left-hander had looked comfortable against the pace of Dean Headley and Ben Phillips, hut the hirthday boy was a different matter. He hardly seemed able to lay a bat on the hall and when Ealham eventually held nne back it brought him a gift of a wicket as Hayden chipped the ball tamely to

He left that to Matthew Hay-

Headley at mid-off. that much at ease, the odd superbly timed and placed shot

Jason Laney had not looked

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

2-0-0.

DURHAM: J J & Lewis, S Hutton, J E Morris, "D C Boon, 1M P Speight, R M S Westort, M J Roster, M M Betts, J Boiling, S J
E Brown, D M Cox.

Untiplines: J H Hampshire and R A Wholi. Worcestershire v Middlesex

KIDDERMINSTER: Middlesex (Lpt) are 217 for 7 in their first innings against stershire won loss MRDDLESEX - First Innings
J C Pootey e Shertyer b Haynes
J H Kaffis e Hick b Shertyer
M R Ramprakash e Rhodes b Mirze
M W Gatting c Spring b Shertyer
II A Shah e Lemptit b Sheriyer
II A Shah e Lemptit b Sheriyer

II A Shah c Lemptit b Shenyer 22 II C Nash not out 33 # K R Brown low b Haynes 14 R L Johnson c Spring b Haynes 9 J P Hewitt not out 10 Extras (ib8 w/4 nb2/41 36 Total (for 7, 67 overs) 217 Patt 1-7 2-47 3-77 4-141 5-142 6-175 7-191 7-191.
To bet A R C Frescr, P C R Turnet.
Bowling (to deste): Sharyer 13-3-37-3; Mirze
18-4-70-1: Kaynes 18-2-57-3; Moody 74-11-0; Lampat 11-4-94-0.
Managements and A Marco M D C Managements and A Marco M D C Managements.

WORCESTERSHEE: M M MICE, W PC Weston, "T M Moody, G A Hick, K R Spiring, G R Hoyres, II A Leatherdale, 1'S J Rhodes, S R Lampite, R K Bingworth, A Shenyar.

ENGLAND: "K Smithles, S Metcalfe, † J Cas-sar, C Connor, & Daniels, K Leng, L MacLeod, J A Brittin, M Reynard, S Redfern, C Edwards, Umphress: J Hayes and A Fox, Umphres: J Hayes and A Fox.

SECOND XI CHAMPPONSHIP (Prest day of three unives stated; 11.0 today): Sometimes three unives stated; 11.0 today): Sometimes Durham 69 for 4 v Gloucestesshire. (Second day of Sour): Rankaridge Wells: No play yesterday (rain): Kent 278 (C II Welsh): 85. N J Long 81. M J Weller 61; R S C Marth-lenkora 4-61. N C Philips 4-62; Surses 22 for 0. Unbridge (RAF Vine Lane): No play yesterday (rain): Northamptonshire 386 (T M B Bailey 86, N J Iranes 84, T C Walton 54; S J Cock 5-67): Middleson 18 for 0. Bradford Park Associati Virishire 174 (R A Kettleborough 80); Lancashire 458 U C Peterson 157. P C McKeown 64; G J Batty 5-78).

Starting today THIRD NATWEST UNDER-19 INTERNA-TIONAL (First day of four, including Sam-day, 11.0): Cambarbury: England v Zentrabwo.

مكذا من الاحل

Agassi in the mood to prove his point

Tennis

vorse than

Rangeep Ran

true colours

.. . TTTC celle called

The Tools I was a

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JOHN ROBERTS reports from Flushing Meadow

For the benefit of spectators up in Row Z at the Arthur Ashe Stadium, Andre Agassi was the baldy guy in the pink shirt. Yes, that was him all right. He

might have given the parade of

champions a miss at the open-ing ceremony the night before, but he did turn np to play. And If it is any consolation to those in the \$28 nose-bleed seats at the US Open, the megabuck Las Vegan felt for them. "I was kind of worried about 8,000 people having had seats," Agassi said after his first round victory against Steve Campbell, a wild card from Detroit, ranked No 130 in the

are the 8,000 that are the truest tennis fans," Agassi added. Agassi next turned his attention to a critical media, whose vantage point is slightly better (except for some of the television commentators, who might as well be atop the Empire State Building, but have

world, 6-1, 6-1, 4-6, 6-3. "Those

monitor screens to help). Disguising his sarcasm more thinly than some of his shots, Agassi said: "For all those who can't make the distinction between when I'm playing and when I'm not, I'm playing."

In Agassi's case, it is sometimes hard to tell, because a fine line separates inspiration from desperation. That is one of the reasons why he is currently ranked No 63 and consequently unseeded. On Tuesday night he mostly revealed his positive side against the 26-year-old Campbell, a journeyman opponent capable of hitting spectacular shots but lacking a fully coordinated game.

The second round brings Adrian Voinca, a Perugia-based Romanian ranked No 107, after which - mood and form permitting - Agassi would meet the winner of the match between the No 3 seed, Yevgeny Kafel-nikov, and the durable Australian, Mark Woodforde.

Either way, it could be diffi-cult for Agassi. Woodforde ended the American's encouraging return to form in his last tournament in Indianapolis a couple of weeks ago, beating him

Campbell's nervy serving af- said.

forded Agassi ample scope to pepper him with groundstokes, and the match only hecame interesting after the opening sets, when the air of a lost cause prompted Campbell to make more of his precious time on the new court.

Campbell recovered after being broken to 3-1 in the fourth set and created two break points for 4-3. He netted a second service return to miss the first, and cord in saving the second.

to just run over anybody," Agassi said, shrugging off the notion that he might have been taken the distance. "He got himself in a position where the third [set] got close, got a little tight, and I made a couple of errors at the wrong time. I'm not quite sure if he ever believed he could continue it, but it was certainly obvious he wanted to stay out there longer. So it was nice to get the court time."

From the sport's point of view, it will he helpful if Agasdent's slip in neglecting to in-troduce him at the dinner of point or two.

One reporter asked Agassi why he did not use his backhand down the line more often after the first two sets. "You actually sound more informed than most

When play resumed in the Ashe Stadium yesterday, Sergi Bruguera, the No 7 seed, worked his way from a two-set deficit to overhaul Australia's Michael

triot, Alberto Berasategui, experienced reverse fortune on the old Stadium Court, proving unable to holding a two-set advantage against South Africa's Wayne Ferreira, who recovered to win, 3-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-2.

tential opponent for Martina Hingis, the world No I, in the women's singles semi-finals, defeated Lori McNeil in her opening match on Tuesday night, 6-2, 7-6. "I think this is the most ready that I've been to perform well at a Grand slam, physically and mentally," Davenport

Capriati still upbeat

Jennifer Capriati lost on the old feel great, physically, you feel Center Court 6-1, 6-2 to the No. like you can get to a lot more 7 seed, Conchita Martinez, in the US Open first round on She added: "Everything was Tuesday, but said she will not let

I'm 100 per cent of where I was where that takes me. Hopefulwhen I was at the top of my by, if I just get myself in shape and game. But I think I'm getting stay positive, I'll just get over that better. I lacked in fitness and stamina. That adds to not having a lot of confidence. If you is going to boost my confidence so much. I still think I can do it."

positive. I was happy I could be let the defeat get her down.

Capriati said: "I don't think to reach my full potential and see

hump. Just winning one round

FOOTBALL RESULTS Tuesaday

LEFA CLP Preliminary round second log:
Celoc 6 Trol Innstruck 3 (agg. 7-51; Durdee
Util 1 Trabornspor 1 (agg. 1-22; Marino
ISwel 0 Hejduk Solt (Coe) 2 (agg. 2-5);
Vorsten Pottane (Util 0 Anderscht (Bel) 2
(agg. 0-4); Villing Stanunger (Nor) 2 Neucralies Xarrax (Solt) 1 (agg. 2-4); Odra
Wortne O (agg. 3-6); Boby Bro (Cr Repl 2 Rapid
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ICES LEAGUE Premier Division: Boreham Wood 5 Beaugistole 0; Clescham 3 Carshalton 0; Duhalch 3 Bromtey 3; Hendon 0 Hitchin 2; Kingstonlan 0 Enfield 0; Oxford Cty 2 Henrick 4; Sutton Ild 2 Beshop's Sibroffard 4; Walton & Hershem 1 Heybridge 0; Vending 0 St. Albans 2; Staines 0 Benthameted 2 (abandoned 31mh, floodight Island; First Division: Aldershot 2 Hampann 0; Bitericey 1 Leyton Pennant 2; Walgelined 0 Gays 1; Whyteleafe 4 Chertsey 1; Wolnigham 2 Worthing 1. Guardian Insurance Cup Preliantery round: Aveley 4 Esson 8 Buel 0; Bedford 1 Windeor 0; Camberley 1 Withern 0; Conntisently round: Aveley 4 Esson 8 Buel 0; Bedford 1 Windeor 0; Camberley 1 Withern 0; Conntisently round: Aveley 4 Esson 8 Buel 0; Bedford 1 Windeor 0; Camberley 1 Withern 0; Conntisently 1; Leasterness 2 Heritord 1 Clapton 1; Horshem 2 Heritord 1 Clapton 2; Tibury 2 Chalfford 1; Southeall 1 Hornchunch 2; Tibury 2 Chalfford 1; Southeall 1 Hornchunch 2; Tibury 2 Chalfford 1; Southeall 1; Wernbley 2 Leighton 1; Weenhoo 3 Banatsed 0.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE Southern Division:

hoe 3 Banstead O.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE Southern Division:
Newport (JoW) 1 Westerlooville O.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First Division: Athenton Collenes 1 Glossop 1; Chedderton 1 Citinenoe 0; Derwen O Holker OldBoys 2; Kutsgrove 3 Athenton LR 1; Maine
Road 1 Newcastis Town 4; Rossendale 1
Healingstan 1.

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Welfare O; Esclashi 3 Arnold 1.

EWISON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Division: Bury Town 0 Histon 3: Clacton 0 Sudbury Town 7: Dass 1 Greet Yarmouth 0;
Falantam 0 Whothern 0; Gorleston 9 Welfon
1; Harwich 1:Halasead 2; Newmarker 1: By 1;
Sudbury Wanderers 5: Stowmarker 1; Thorse
0 Feliastows 2; Woodbridge 2 Lowestoft 3. O Februtive 2: Wootbridge 2 Loveston 3.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE First Division: Therestmend 1. Confident 1.

UNIET SUBSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First Division: Bonshern Wife 1. Wed 2: Paghern 2 Littleherrepton 2: Portfeld 1 Selsey 1.

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Division: Barristonic Selmore 1: Bridgester 5 Side with backet in Leasan Presser own-ston: Barristopie 5. Elmore 1; Bridgester 5. Bridgon 1; Mengpusfield 4. Odd Down 0; West-bury 2 Chiopenhem 2. POMTINS LEAGUE Premier Divisions: Derby 1. Bladdown 3 (et the Basebell Ground. Ast. 4,000).

After winning the third set, Agassi was fortunate with a net

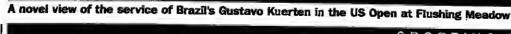
Well, you can't really expect

si's court time continues. It appears that his recent reviews, not to mention the USTA presichampions, may have made him mad enough to prove a

of these media people," Agassi responded. "You play yourself?"

Tebbutt, 3-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2. Bruguera's Spanish compa-

Lindsay Davenport, a po-



Kelly keeps kilometre title

Australia's Shane Kelly won his third successive kilometre time trial world title in Perth, Australia yesterday.

The Australian, who had heen troubled by a niggling back injury in the build-up to the championships, clocked 1min 3.156sec to beat the German pair, Sören Lausberg and Stefan Nimke. France's Frederic Magne

won a typically contentious keirin taking gold ahead of South Africa's Jean-Pierre Van Zyl and the American threetimes world champion, Marty Nothstein. Italy's Roberto Chiappa was second across the line and Germany's Jens Fiedler third, but both were demoted for employing illegal tactics.

The Spanish team of Miguel Alzamora and Juan Llaneras won the gold medal in the 50km madison. It was a miserable day for

Britain, with Rob Hayles going out of the individual pursuit in the first round, Peter Jacques falling in the second round of the keirin, Jonathan Clay and Bryan Steel finishing 10th in the madison and Wendy Everson coming last in the women's sprint qualifying round.

Athletics
TUESDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Berlin Grand Prix Man: 100m: 1.F Fredercks (Marn) 9.95/sct; 2= D Bodey (Can), T Mantgomery (US) 10.05. 200m: 2.J Drammord (US) 20.07: 2.G Panavotopoutos (GA 20.38: 2.T Doughs: Berl 20.42. 400m: 1.J Promes (GB) 44.50; 2.M Rchardson (GB) 45.50: 2.R Beach (GB) 45.40: 2.R Beach (GB) 45.50: 2.R Beach (GB) 45.40: 2.R Beach (GB) 45.50: 2.R Beach (GB) 45.40: 2.R Beach

Basebafi BASSEDGAIN

AMERICAN LEAGURE New York Yamkeos 18 Cakland 2: Kensas City 5 Baharnare 4; Chicago White Sox & Tocotto 5: Welveutee 11 Tevas 10 (12 Inthigh): Marmassta B Demont 2: Ansherm B Cleveland 7; Seattle & Boston 2.

NATIONAL LEAGURE Prebadelphs 4 San Deego 2: Los Angeles 6 Possough 4; Altanta 7 Houston 6 (11 Inhings): San Francisco 6 New York Mets 2: Flonds 11. Chicago Cubr 0: Montreel 7 St Louis 5; Colorado 9 Cincinnato 5.

Bowls

MEN'S ALL ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS (Morthingt) Pains championship, semi-ficials B Tayfor and T Kernster (Gostoro, Newcaste) in D and
A Barer (Migan, Cumhoral 20-16, 5 Neuman and
A Tidly (Dombester, Donsel) in N Cordy and D Misson (Ceersnopes, Lings) 17-14. Mast Dombester
in Costoro 19-14, Singless championship, prelindhamy recent? P Auf Boundmouth in P Durson (Covers Medical) 21-15; W Jackson (Lincoln
St Gars) to S nevere (Woodloge Hill, Sump)
21-16; S Woodcook (Mindisary Menor in S Jones
(Bark House Horte, Words) 21-10; D McCymont
(Chetterhorn Spal in D Jenions (St Reas) 21-7.
Finst round: D Holder (Wargare, Berles in B Percual (Stearart), Berls) 21-12; K Holman (Wes
Horm), Susserj in P Norther (Winsley, Wirzs) 2116; J Ramball (Gardon, Hers) in C Romath (Dsaech) 21-17; O Bodder (Wesandro Park, Dorset)
bt R Welland (Topsham, Devon 21-9,

Torn Moody, the Worcestershire captain, has told his county it would be too demanding for him to double up as play-er and coach next season. He will continue in the role of capitalning both Worcestershire and Western Australia.

Cycling's world governing body launched a historic drug testing campaign yesterday when it checked blood samples from riders at the World Track Charmplonships. Blood-testing road riders began earber this year in reaction to the rising use of killer drug erythropoletin, or EPO. About 20 deaths have been linked to the drug.

WORLD CHARMPONSHIPS (Perth Aus.) Opening days Men's 1000ms time triet 1.8 Kelly (Just) Inth 03.15ee; 2.8 Lausberg (Ger) 1:03.397; 3.5 Number (Ger) 1:03.470; 4.4 Tournent Eri 1:03.515; 8.4 Thus 1:17 1:04.411 B 7 Jumon; 1:02.519; 8.4 Thus 1:17 1:04.411 B 7 Jumon; 1:02.519; 8.4 Thus 1:17 1:04.411 B 7 Jumon; 1:02.519; 8.4 Thus 1:17 1:04.411 B 7 Jumon; 1:03.519; 1.5 Hard (Just) 1:05.07; 1.2 D bay (Just) 1:05.310; 1.3 C Machen (GE) 1:05.336; 1.4 A Kless (GI) 1:05.30; 1.5 D McRieros-Potter (NZ) 1:05.930; 1.8 M Jeskovar (Stoven) 1:06.487; 1.7 S Demichenko (Uhr. 1:06.541; 1.9 A Colle Mrg 1:07.772; 1.9 G Grapoyen (Arm 1:07.771, Menn Machin fines: 1.7 Magner Frv. 2.1 P Van Zyl (SA); 3 M Nothstein (IS); 4.0 Hall Aus: R Chespos (It) and J Feder (Ger) Gos, Menn's Macilian fines: 1.7 Magner (Just) 1. San Al Azamorari Lianens; 21pts; 2 taby (SMerrineloM Villa); 1. lab 30pts; 3 Augentha U Chuncher (Curuchett -1 28: 4 Demmark (T Generon) (IS Pullar) 1.34; 5 Succession (R Bestevard) U Deaning Transcon) 1.15; 1.20 Cesta Bratan (I Chayli Steel -1 2: 11 Russia (I) Gellone/M Generon -1 0; 12 Centhe (Phisman) 1.1 Such Reputate (M Lister) San der old fines; 1.4 Michael A Federon V Ishon-San der old fines; 1.4 Michael A Federon V Ishon-San der old fines; 1.4 Michael A Federon V Ishon-San der old fines; 1.4 Michael A Federon V Ishon-San der old fines; 1.4 Michael A Federon V Ishon-San der old fines; 1.4 Michael A Federon V Ishon-San der old fines; 1.4 Michael A Federon V Ishon-San der old fines; 1.4 Michael A Federon V Ishon-San der old fines; 1.4 Michael A Federon V Ishon-San der old fines; 1.5 Michael A Federon V Ishon-San der old fines; 1.5 Michael A Federon V Ishon-San der old fines; 1.5 America (A Kazanyan/K Solog

A Rezensov Notovesh (mr. 15 America (a Rezensov Notovesh (mr. 15 America (a 1627-70)). TOUR OF THE NETHERIANDS Second stage (1677-70) and Notovesh (a New Arm 5sec. 2 L. von Bon (Neth) Robobers, 3 E. Leon (in Dian-Sart 4 A D. Besco (fil Secon), 3 E. Leon (in Dian-Sart 4 A D. Besco (fil Secon), 5 J. Svorade (t.2 Rep.) Mapet: 5 J. Birkeven (Neth) TWA: 7 M. von der Worl (Neth) Foreidomdo: 2 M. Cornalisse (Neth) Foreidomdo: 3 P. De Benn (in Dissessatir, 10 T. Secele (Ber Witzel at same time. Launting overally filedom (filedom filedom filedom

Equestrianism

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EUROPEAN HOW JUNEFING CHAMPIONSHIPS
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Harutay: SVN: clear, 70,77: 3 Espirit FRH II.
Netherg, Ger clear, 71,02. Baden-Wartsmann,
Prizer 1 Scandal IP Darragh, Im. clear, 62,75;
2 Histon Unioven Promisere IG Orachet, Bull clear,
65,33; 3 Erraum Hall M. Baccistroem, Swel clear,
73,17.

SPORTING DIGEST

Golf has become the latest victim of Thai-land's economic crisis, with at least three Thai PGA Tour tournaments cancelled after sponsors pulled out due to finan-cal difficulties. The cancelled events are the Volvo Thailand Masters, originally to be held in July, the PTT-Uncold Cham-pionship scheduled for this month and the Thai Airways International champi-onship.

the That Airways International championship.

MASTERCARD TOUR (Stratford on Avon) Leading first-round scores: 64 5 Dood (Bany), 5 Roberson libroome Manor); 65 I Hamson (Ross, on Wye), G Howel (Sturminster Marshell), N Cornelly (Stareton Paris - A Telman (Midernessel, C Etans (Empress Cor Sales), J Teytor (Tall Pines), R Johnson (Vale of Gamorgan); 68 2 Vale (Whithington Health), C O'Carroll (Cotted Park), K Deisers (Morthampton), P Lyons (Langley Park), 5 Andrew (Cetheroe).

Motor racing

Interior racing

Tyrnell's Formula One cars will be powered by Ford Cosworth V1.0 engines during the 1998 Grand Prix season, it was confirmed yestsirday. The Ford engines form 8 vital part of Tyrnell's "Racing towards the Millennium" programme which aims to see the team challenging for the title by the wear 2000.

PODES LITILEWOODS: Treble chance: 24ste £285.050.80, 22 £2.450.40, 22 £227.70, 21 £42.60, had-hare (reax 20sts) £528.65, Four crass; 23.45, Mine horses £90.70, Free arrays £33.20, https://doi.org/10.2006/10.2006/10.2006/ 1939 20. SRITIERS: Trable chance: 22pts £867.00, 22 £13.40, 21 £1.95. Four draws: £10.60. Five aways: £43.60. Bight homes: £43.60. VERNONS: Trable chance: 23pts £9.425.95, 22 £100.80, 21 £19.50. Prentier 10 £58.25.

22 1.10.0.0, 2 1.19.50, Provider 10 158.35, ZETTERS: Troble Chamoe: 24gts 21.267.40, 23gts 1.142.05; 22gts 512.20, 21gts 52.15 tell for 16gt; 4 Dress: inching barrelf 51.4; 8 better inching barrelf 51.00; 4 sessys 4.57, 70 fell for 20gt; 3 dress inching barrelf £9.20; Fall Five 20gt; 3 dress inching barrelf £9.20; Fall Five 20gt; 3 dress inching barrelf £9.20; Fall Five £30.35 (both for £1).

Manin Offiah is back in training with the London Broncos and is likely to agree a new deal with them in time to play against Bradford on Sunday. St Helens will be without Andy Haigh for three weeks following a knee injury. Carlisle have been ordered to play their Divisional Pernership match with White-haven Warriors on 3 September. The Second Division club were forced to pull

out of last Monday's scheduled game at the Recreation Ground because they could field only eight players. TUESDAY'S LATE RESULT Stones Super Leaguer Paris 23 Okthan 12 Paris Thise Buers 2, Each, O'Dornell Goels O'Connor 3; Brop O'Connor. Oktham Thee Deroston, Goodson; Soals Goodson, Malonsy. (6,714)

Photograph: Reuter

Rugby Union

Peter Wright, the international prop. yes-terday joined the Tennertis Premiership side West of Scotland. The former Mel-rose and Boroughnur player, capped 21 times, has been picked for the Scot-tish Borders district squad this season. Paul Thorburn, the former Wales full-back and captain, is to return to Neath having ended his playing career last April at Duriwant.

St Durward.

England's 18-year-old players completed a four of Australia by winning the schools international 38-20 in Sydney yesterday after leading 31-8 at half-time.

Berkland Immerator (four of New Zealand, June 1998: 13 June v New Zealand A, Hamitor: 18 v New Zealand Academy, Imercangis: 20 v All Bucks, Dunedin: 22 v New Zealand Maon, Rotona: 27 v All Bucks, Auckland.

TUESDAYS: LAYE GESTAN.

TUESDAY'S LATE RESULT: A Internal (Posttypridd): Wales A 36 Romana 21.

The Royal Ocean Club plans to introduce

The Royal Ocean Club plans to introduce a new system to calculate handlapps for yachts of ell shapes and sizes so that they can race against each other from 1 January 2000. The new system will replace the more general Cruising Handlap System and the complex international Measurement System. Ever since the IMS replaced the International Offshore Rule there has been disquiet over a computer-based programme which can change a yacht's handlap assessment according to the conditions in which it is racing. The CHS rule, meanwhile, was meant to cope with the thouwhile, was meant to cope with the thou-sands of cruser/racer craft which double as both pleasure and sports craft. This, however, is being pushed to the limit by those only really interested in racing. John Merncks and Ian Walker are near the bottom of the 28-boat gold fleet at the World 470 Championships in Tel Avis, lying 25th after six races. But Nick Rogers and Steve Insh are 10th as the Finns, Leskinen and Henria lead from

SQUERSAN
COUNTY PACEPC HONG KONG OPEN First round:
Janeter When (Pak) at P Gregory (Gr. 15-2 1512 15-9; P Johnson (Eng) at C Visiber (Eng 158 15-6 9 15 15-13; R Syles Just bt G Rydng
(Carn 15-17 15-6 15 15-11; 15-9; N Yayor (Eng)
VD Ryen (n) 15-11; 13-15 10-15 15-15-3 15-14;
P Marshed (Eng) bt, A Hai (Aus) 15-4 15-6 15-3;
P Marshed (Eng) bt, A Hai (Aus) 15-4 15-6 15-3;
9 10-15 15-9; M Headh (Scot bt, S Parke (Eng)
15-5 15-7 15-9; S Meads (Eng) bt, B Bonstan (Fr)
15-7 15-6 15-10.
SWARDP MALAYSIAM WEDARDER'S OPEN (Rush)

Test of nerves for Killie in Dublin

Football

The Kilmarnock striker Paul Wright is still a doubtful starter for today's European Cup-Winners' Cup tie with the Dublin side Shelbourne at Tolka Park after injuring his shoulder in Saturday's 4-0 defeat by Hibernian at Easter Road.

Wright scored hoth goals. the first a penalty on the hour and then the winner in the third minute of injury time when Kilmarnock edged home 2-1 in the first leg at Rugby Park a fortnight ago. His absence would be a major setback for the

Scottish Cup holders. "Paul will be having treatment right up to kick-off time, but it may be that he will stay on the subs bench and be sprung at some stage of the game," said the manager, Bobby Williamson. "An early goal would suit us fine. But the days of Scottish clubs go-ing hell for leather in European competitions are over. We have got to be patient."

The fact that Kilmarnock have conceded 10 goals in their last two games – a 6-2 defeat by First Division Stirling Albion in the Coca-Cola Cup and then the 4-0 loss to Hibernian in the Premier Division - is a matter of concern to Williamson.

Those scorelines were not really a true reflection of the play. We know we can do much better and with some 2,000 Killie fans travelling to Duhlin, we want to repay them for those two setbacks," he added, With Wright douhtful, the

former Scottish international Pat Nevin seems a certain starter and he will have a key role to play as Kilmarnock bid to reach the next round.

Shelbourne's manager, Damien Richardson, hopes to field a double strike force of Dessie Baker and Stephen Geoghegan as the Irish club go for the goal that could see them in the draw for the next round in

Zurich tomorrow morning. Baker, once on Manchester United's books, will have late treatment on an ankle injury picked up in the 3-0 victory over Shamrock Rovers in a League Cup tie on Friday. But all the oghegan, he will have recovered sufficiently from injury to start.

The former Coventry City midfielder Touy Sheridan will be the key man for Shelbourne who know that a I-0 win will be enough to grab the glory after Mark Rutherford's precious

away goal a fortnight ago. "Even if we did grab an early goal we would not revert to a defensive strategy," said Richardson. "We are just not capable of playing that way. It's not the standard in Europe nowadays as was proven when Celtic had that 7-5 aggregate win over Tirol Innsbruck.

Glenavon's manager, Nigel Best, will be relying on the power of the telephone when his side take on Legia Warsaw in tomorrow's European Cup-Winners' Cup preliminary round

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second leg in Poland.

Best is a Belfast schoolteacher and is unable to travel to Warsaw because the game clashes with a seminar which he is conducting. He intends keeping in touch with his assistant, Colin McCurdy, by a 90-minute telephone satellite link between Belfast and Warsaw.

Portugal's Rocha and Barreto. In the women's division, Helena Lucas and Maggie Beech are 11th.

Sovarnessi (1990) 15-4 3-0 0-3.

WORLD STUDENT GAMES (Pelerino, Stelly)
Mort's singles final: Yorg-1 Yoon (S Kon bt P
Kusinac (Cz Repi 6-4 6-4, Wornen's singles finat: Sh-bng Wang (Tah bt M Callen 190 6-2 6-3.

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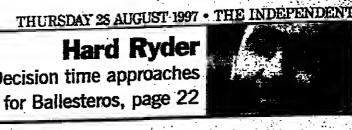
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trys by t

real sporting hero Ken Jones looks at the rise of Tiger Woods, page 22

sport

Decision time approaches



Shearer to return in the new year

Football MARK BURTON

Sir John Hall offered Newcastle supporters an early Christmas present yesterday, but then was forced to disappoint them.

Hall, the Newcastle chair-man, said on BBC Radio 4 in the morning that he understood that Alan Shearer, who suffered ankle ligament injury in a pre-season match at Goodison Park, could be back in compet-

ithe football "November-ish". Those Magpie fans who were whooping with joy would have missed his qualifying comment that he would have a clearer idea once he had spoken to the club doctor, who, like Hall. was in Croatia for last night's Champions' League qualifier.

The doctor did not have such good news. Hall later explained: I've now had a chance to speak with the doctor who has informed me that it is far too early to give any indication as to when Alan Shearer will be hack. The specialist has told the club everything is going well and we are delighted with the

progress he's making."
The player and his medical advisors are happy with his rate of recovery, but there is no target date for the England captain's return to the Premiership front line. Late January seems to be the most likely time.

Another international strikers. Fabrizio Ravanelli, could still be in the North-east when Shearer is lit to play. He will not be leaving Middlesbrough to join Everton unless the Merseysiders come up with the £7.5m Boro are insisting is their minimum fee for the Îtalian.

On a day for abandoning hopes. Wales reluctantly turned down the chance of playing against the Brazil. They might have to make do with helping England to prepare for the World Cup linals, giren that Glenn Hoddle's side qualifies.

The Welsh, who have failed to qualify, were contacted by Brazil last week and offered a game in Salvador, north of São Paulo, on 9 or 10 September, but there would have been problems in bringing the players back in time for Premiership matches the following weekend. There was also a good chance that

Brazil would play Wales in a return prior to going to France to defend their world title next summer. That was pencilled in for early June, but because of Brazil's cash demands, that,

too, has been abandoned. Money stands between Peter Nowak and a contract at Tottenham. Transfer talks broke down when the Pole's German club, 1860 Munich, demanded £1.25m, twice what Spurs were

prepared to pay.
The Sheffield Wednesday striker Andy Booth has had a cartilage operation and will be ruled out for around a month to add to the club's early-sea-

With Wednesday having earned only one point from their first four games and about to lose their Italian import Benito Carbone to a threematch han, their manager, David Plcat, admitted: "Losing Booth is a big blow.

The £2.65m former Huddersfield forward damaged a knee in the I-I draw with Wimhledon last Saturday. Although he was passed fit for the 7-2 defeat at Blackburn, he had to go off during the first half. Carbone will be able to play in Saturday's home game against Leicester but is set to miss matches next month against Liverpool and Coventry plus a Coca-Cola Cup tie after being sent off at Ewood Park.

The League of Wales club Cwmbran Town have been forced to accept a fire-figure loan from undisclosed sources to enable them to fulfil their European Cup-Winners' Cup preliminary round second leg match against National Bucuresti in Romania tonight.

Cymbran, beaten 5-2 in the first leg on their own ground two weeks ago, took less than £3,000 on the gate and now face the prespect of paying around £15,000 in travel and accommo-

dation expenses for the return. The Gwent club had been hoping to boost their revenue through television rights and the subsequent increase in sponsorship and advertising, but those hopes ended when BBC Wales decided not to screen the match. Although they will receire £30,000 from Uefa for taking part in the competition, Cwmbran must wait until next summer for that money.



White charger: Hugo Simon, of Austria, puts in some practice on Apricot D in preparation for the European Show Jumping Championships. accustoming himself to the arena in Mannheim, Germany, where competition begins today

Eager Heath upsets **Parke**

Squash

England's Simon Parke lost to Scotland's Martin Heath in the biggest upset of the Cathay Pacific Hong Kong Open so far. Heath, last week's Singapore Open champion and ranked 20th in the world, won 15-5, 15-7, 15-9 to knock out the fifth } seeded Englishman in the first

Meanwhile, the world No 1 Jansher Khan has said he wants to win every title in the world at least 10 times before he retires. Jansher, 28, defeated Greece's Paul Gregory 15-2. 15-12, 15-9 in the first round of the Hong Kong Open and is determined to make up for last year's defeat in the final, where he lost to Australia's Rodney

The Pakistani said the Hong Kong event, which he has won seven times, was part of his plan to try and win as many titles as. possible and set records that would be almost impossible for future generations to better.

Jansher aiready has six British Open titles to his name and has won the World Open a record eight times. Jansher faces England's Nicholas Taylor in the second round today.

The defending champion. Eyles had to work hard to overcome Canada's Graham Ryding 15-17, 15-6, 8-15, 15-11, 15-9 in the first round. England's Peter Marshall, the former world No 2 who is making a comeback after a lengthy absence, advanced to a second-round clash with Eyles after beating another Australian, Anthony Hill, 15-4, 15-6, 15-3, Chris Walker, from Essex, the seventh seeded England No 1, went down 15-8, 15-6, 9-15, 15-13 to a fellow lefthander, Paul Johnson of Kent.

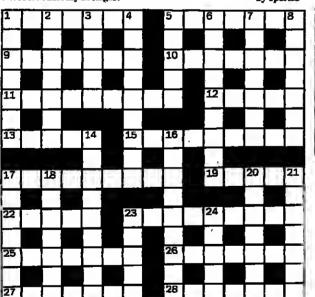
Nottingham's Peter Marshall progressed with a win over Australia's Anthony Hill, while Stephen Meads of Berkshire removed the French champion, Julien Bonetat, in straight

Johnson thought his win over Walker, who had confessed to an unaccountable nervousness in such an experienced player, was his best PSA World Tour performance. Taylor's match against Jan-

sher came courtesy of a 15-11, 13-15, 10-15, 15-8, 15-13 win over the Irish champion Derek Ryan, with whom he trains in Manchester.

Today Mark Chaloner of Lincolnshire and Del Harris of Essex play each other, while Alex Gough of Wales plays Canada's Jonathon Power and the British champion, Mark Cairns of Oxford, meets Scotland's world No 2, Peter Nicol.

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



ACROSS It provides us with rainbows, for instance (7) Fictitious quadrille dancer, maiden replacing

large hood (7)
Heating's supplied by coal 26
product most of wealthy 10 Sweet yet elegant English commander enters (7)
11 Dish made by girl, linked with the south-west, per-

haps? (5, 4)
Charge small vermouth to 1
young socialite (5)
Sensitive area in check (5) 2
Automated equipment enabling army somehow to 3 cross crest of ridge (9)

17 RN action's conducted at 4

very high speed (9) Page one, in the main, appears in colour (5)
Compere over in Europe,
formerly Middle East (5) 23 Holding large volume, au ditor gets sanctimonious about account (9) Lieutenant having to

move laboriously (7) Flat fare available throughout Scotland (7) Go into a lecture, primari-ty about the intestinal system (7) Mislaid key – sorry not to

finish deliveries (7) DOWN Rebellious group in France starting a battle (7) 18 Sister taking care of veter-an fighter (7) Electrical connection in

Sporting type in gruelling 21 match, say, ultimately heaten (9) 23 Scotsman going with a with fish basket (5)
Welsh bird, exotic one (5)
Welsh bird, exotic one (5) Uses powered mechan

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to remove water from locks (4-5) See him wearing special belt as protection from minor injuries (7) Manoeuvre for which it's necessary to teave space

Bowman, maybe? (4-5) Dreadfully din around US city involves a policeman coming to house (9) Word of reassurance about atternative technol-

ogy in part of hospital (7)
18 What may be current, having a number? (7)
20 Professional cricketer expecting initially to get cer-pecting initially to get cer-ification of will (7) Solutions producing raw-ness if misused (7) Church member turns up with fish basket (5)

Derbyshire had banned their players from commenting on the former Australian Test player's resignation but in a statement issued today, the club accepted are, Canary Wharf, London E14 SOL, and printed at Marror Cubair Print. St that "it was inappropriate for officers of the committee to impose a ban on players speaking

Hill linked with move to Prost – at a price

Motor racing

Damon Hill is being linked with the team headed by the former world champion, Alain Prost, as his Formula One future reaches make-or-break time.

Prost, a former Williams team-mate of Hill, is ready to sign the current drivers' champion if the price is right. "I want the best driver pos-

sible on condition that he is not too expensive. I have my hudget and 1 am sticking to it," the Frenchman said yesterday.

The pair are expected to hold talks this week, with Hill's asking price likely to be the cru-

cial factor.

After the Belgian Grand Prix at Spa-Francorchamps last weekend, Hill revealed that he had turned down an offer of

£13m over two years from Sauber-Petronas and a £1.3m basic wage package and £650,000 win honus from

McLaren-Mercedes. The Arrows driver has also been linked with Jordan, hut Eddie Jordan, the team owner, said yesterday that their accent on youth meant they would be keeping Giancarlo Fisichella and Ralf Schumacher next sea-

Jordan is confident he can win his contract battle with Benetton over Fisichella, who underlined his potential with second place to Michael Schumacher on Sunday.

Prost was impressed with Hill's ability when they were team-mates at Williams in 1993, the year the Frenchman retired after winning the championship for the fourth time.

Despite agreeing an engine supply deal with Peugeot starting next season and signing Olivier Panis for two more years. Prost said recently that his would not he an all-French

An Anglo-French driving al-liance of Hill and Panis, currently recuperating after breaking both his legs in Canada in June, would he an attractive proposition.

Hill could yet remain with Arrows, while Sauber are also willing to reopen negotiations, although they no longer see him as a priority to partner Johnny Herbert.

Benetton remain a potential haven, especially if they lose out on Fisichella, although whether they can offer Hill a competitive package on and off the track is doubtful,

and agent to try to get him

to make a commitment to

Derbyshire, but he was forced

to admit: "I think it's unlikely

Barnett's victory over county

to the media in such circum-

stances. Players and committee

agreed that players can make

public statements as long as they

observe the new guidelines from

Derbyshire's former captain, Kim Barnett, yesterday claimed a victory for "cricketers everywhere" after winning his twomonth dispute with the county. He was ready to take Derbyshire to an appeal hearing at Lord's after they fined him £1,500 for making media state-ments made in the wake of Dean Jones' walk-out in June.

never been in breach of his contract with the club." hut everywhere.

Barnett said: "This has established an important principle for cricketers, not just here, Derbyshire also faced up to the prospect of losing their tal-ented batsman Chris Adams,

who has repeatedly asked over

the last four years for his release.

The chairman, Vic Brownett,

said he had held "20 hours of

talks" with Adams, his family

he will stay. the England and Wales Crick-Northampionshire have et Board. The committee therebeld a further meeting with fore agree that Kim Barnett has Shane Warne in their hid to per-

suade the Australian leg-spinner to join the county. The club's chief executive, Steve Coverdale, and the chairman, Lynn Wilson, mei Warne and his adviser, Austin Robertson. Northamptonshire have denied speculation that they offered Warne the captaincy, but are believed to he competing for the Australian's services along with Nottinghamshire. Lancashire

County cricket, page 22

At last the South of France has the wine to match its women and song.

Not until 1992 did the famous nympheties and chanteuses of the Midi have a local wine to complement their chic. It was fresh and spicy, yet stylish and refined - but could anything so good stay as good! In fact, say the critics, it got better as James Herrick refined his blend of New World rechnology and Old World know-how in Languedoc vineyards first used by the Romans. The result, this year, is a triumph: a wine good enough in provoke an impromptu rendering of Sur le bont d'Avignon. ames Herrick CHARDONNAY THE DE PAYS D'OC MANUAL PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF lames Herrick

CHARDONNAY

AVAILARI ECA CATEA WIDE FROM ASDA, BERKELEY WINE, BOTTOMS OF HE CANAD ETH HOTTH, ELIVIDAE IN THE EUROPA, RULLEYS, MORRISONS, ODDIBINS, RUSSELL TELLARS SANSELEY, SAFEWAY, SMEENFELL SPAR, TESCO, THRESHER, LYMINS, VICTORIA WINE, WAITRONE, WINE CELLAR, WINE RACK, WONTOM USE.

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